

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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CAPUTO COMMENTS ON MP'S REMARKS, TIES WITH U.S.

PY122017 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1915 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Mar (NA) -- Foreign Minister Dante Caputo today lauded the "important remarks" made by Labour MP George Foulkes, who proposed that "a peaceful solution" be found to the Malvinas conflict. Caputo expressed his hope that "this opinion, which reflects that of the British public, is not out of keeping with the thinking of the British Government." Caputo made these remarks at Government House shortly before attending a party the cabinet ministers and other government officials were giving for President Raul Alfonsin on the occasion of his birthday.

In a statement a few days ago Foulkes said that "it is possible to find a solution to the (Malvinas) conflict" and described as "madness" Margaret Thatcher's persistence in "antagonizing the country."

"Foulkes' remarks are very important and reflect the opinion of the British public, which I hope is not out of keeping with the thinking of the British Government," Caputo said.

Caputo also minimized comments published here charging that his being the foreign minister is "an obstacle" to Argentine-U.S. relations. "This type of news is really baseless. I do not know who disseminated it and why it was done. I only want to state that facts can disprove this charge," Caputo said. "I suggest those who read this report be aware of reality, because the actions of the government and the Foreign Ministry are based on reality and not on rumors, the motives of which only God knows," Caputo said.

Commenting on the status of Argentine-U.S. relations, Caputo said: "They are cordial; they are increasingly improving. We are engaged in a very open, very important dialogue. At present, we are holding talks with a State Department delegation that has come to discuss the current world political situation." He added: "I believe our relations with the United States are in line with the clear international position we have adopted and with our intention to consolidate our national autonomy on solid bases."

Commenting on the status of the negotiations on the Beagle Channel, Caputo noted that Ambassador Marcelo Delpech is leaving for Rome today "to begin a new round of negotiations on 15 March."

SENATOR SAYS BRITISH MP'S COMING IN APRIL

PY121723 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Interview with Adolfo Gass, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, to an unidentified reporter -- time and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] Mr Adolfo Gass, we believe that our listeners would be interested in hearing your comments on the possible visit which two British MP's will pay to Argentina to hold talks with their Argentine counterparts.

[Gass] About a week ago I said that I have received information from friends living in Great Britain that the visit which the two British MP's, one a Conservative and the other a Laborite, were planning to pay to Argentina had not been suspended but merely delayed. Their tentative arrival date is some time in April. They will come with a few aides and plan to pay a visit to the Argentine Parliament. I also said at that time, and I want to reaffirm this now, that I hope that not only the Radical Civic Union bloc but also all other blocs will be present at the talks to find out what the British parliamentarians feel about the sovereignty and (?status) of the Malvinas Islands.

[Reporter] A short time ago when we spoke with Senator Ricardo Laconte in Corrientes, he said that the visit of the British MP's would be pointless if the sovereignty of the Malvinas, Georgias, and South Sandwich Islands was not discussed.

[Gass] That is true. What I would like to point out is that these British MP's are coming to talk to us, they have no negotiating powers. It would be something else if the visitors were officials of Margaret Thatcher's government. There is a very clear distinction. The legislators can talk with each other, but the negotiations are up to the government.

However, I would like to say that I agree with Senator Laconte. Of course, we have to talk about sovereignty, if not, there is no point in talking about the Malvinas. If we were to admit something that we have been rejecting for 150 years, that is, that the Malvinas belong to the British, not to the Argentines, there would be nothing to discuss and nothing would have happened on 2 April 1982.

PRESIDENTIAL AIDE ARRESTED IN HUMAN RIGHTS CASE

PY121707 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1438 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Mar (TELAM) -- A high-ranking government house official today confirmed that Lieutenant Colonel Nestor Greppi has been arrested in La Pampa Province. He has been charged, but is not facing trial. Col Greppi is aide de camp to President Raul Alfonsin, who according to the source is aware of the situation.

The source indicated that the military officer went to the province in response to a court summons to make a statement in a case involving a violation of human rights. Upon being questioned by the journalists, the source added no further details.

PREVENTIVE CUSTODY ORDERED FOR GENERAL CAMPS

PY121710 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1619 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Mar (TELAM) -- Colonel Jorge Gonzalez Ramirez, secretary of the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces, reported shortly after 1300 today that this military body has ordered preventive custody for General Ramon Camps, retired, in the summary trial that the general is facing for alleged violations of human rights.

GEN SIMARI DISCUSSES MILITARY, RETIREMENT

PY101742 Buenos Aires GENTE in Spanish 8 Mar 84 pp 8-11

["Exclusive" interview with Brigadier Alberto Simari by CENTE journalist Renee Sallas -- date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Sallas] Brigadier Simari, would you call yourself a rebel?

[Simari] No, I am not a rebel. I have always been a very obedient officer who has been lucky to serve a force that has always listened to him. It is true that I have been sanctioned, but I do not remember having gone unpunished under any of the ranks I have held. I thought that with the rank of brigadier I would finally go unharmed, but as you know the measures taken against me have forced me to withdraw from active service. My subordinates have always heard me speak my mind, and proof of this is the expressions of support I am receiving now.

[Sallas] Do you consider yourself the official spokesman of the young officers of your service? Do your statements reflect their feelings?

[Simari] No. They have good leadership within the force, and it must continue to be supported. But I would say that the young officers of my service are sorry to see me retire. I think I could have done much more for the Air Force, but I do not regret what I did. I only did what I had to do. They have made a mistake with me. Look, 2 years ago when I took over the general secretariat and, in some way, got engaged in the political field, the first thing I found out was that I had to get rid of my military attitude and adopt a political attitude, because politics is harsher. Therefore, I have experience in the military and political fields. During the past 2 years I have had to give my commanders political advice. When acting in the military field I always raised issues straightforwardly, as I have done now, and nothing ever happened. I never imagined that a military issue, an exchange of opinions at a military level, would have the impact it did and would leak out of military circles. I do not hold the defense minister and, less still, the commander in chief of the Armed Forces responsible for what has happened to me. This is a problem pertaining to military men that is being handled by military men. The only time I visited the defense minister was to say farewell to him, since I had already learned about the decision. What I told the minister was to spare words, since during my career I had heard them many times and had also resorted to them myself on many occasions. I told him that I was thus relieving him of the awkward job of having to explain why he was forcing me to retire, and that we could talk of more important issues for the country. In sum, my problem started on Wednesday. A reconciliation meeting between the persons that had attended the Wednesday meeting was held on Thursday; what was discussed on that occasion was published by the newspapers on Sunday, and by the following Wednesday I was already retired.

[Sallas] If I am not mistaken, the Armed Forces reorganization bill was discussed during the meeting on Wednesday. It was attended by the chiefs of staff of the three forces and by General Fernandez Torres, chief of the Joint Staff. Why did you also attend the meeting and in what capacity?

[Simari] In the first place, I attended the meeting because I have always been interested in issues relating to the reorganization and planning of the Armed Forces. In the second place, because everything I have to say is endorsed by almost 40 years of regular military service. I spend 3 and 1/2, almost 4 years, in the Joint Staff, first in the logistics department and later in the indoctrination department. This was in 1969, the only time a complete military plan was carried out with General Toscano.

Within my service I was the officer with the most joint experience. I spent 37 of my 55 years in the Air Force. All I said was based on my experience.

I believe that what I said is the truth, which the majority, including the military, understands, but it is not accepted since there is still a tendency to defend sectorial interests. That is why I thought that in a historical moment such as the one we are experiencing, with a political arbiter who is independent of the particular interests of each service, I could give advice which, for obvious reasons, those who lead the respective institutions cannot accept.

In 1969 the joint military plan failed because of serious mistakes of evaluation. It did not happen because of a lack of capacity. All of us engaged in drawing up plans -- especially the military -- are aware that in order to achieve one's goals one must be aware that he is facing a very powerful enemy capable of increasing its power. Therefore, in order to develop the means to confront him, one has to increase one's own power, even if it is to the detriment of other services. What happened was that fictitious possibilities that then led to failure took place. The solutions chosen were to remain on good terms with the three services rather than make a rational decision. And now we are about to make the same mistake again.

[Sallas] In sum, what in the end prompted your retirement was your disagreement with the decision that the Army be granted preferential treatment to the detriment of the other forces.

[Simari] In the first place, I questioned the current organization of the Joint Staff. I criticized the fact that the country's highest military rank, that of lieutenant general, is granted without the need of becoming chief of the Joint Staff beforehand, and that that rank is not granted under the same conditions among the chiefs of staff of all the services. That is, one holds a higher rank among equals. Why should one force be granted a higher rank than another? Why should there be a lieutenant general and not a brigadier general or an admiral? I believe that in order to deserve that privilege, one must accumulate widely recognized professional merits. Authority is not granted through decrees, one earns it every day through actions, one earns it because one deserves it. This is one of the aspects of the issue that prompted my retirement. But I would say that this is the core of the problem.

[Sallas] What other issue prompted your retirement?

[Simari] The other reason was my point of view, which I voiced without beating around the bush, on what sort of Armed Forces our country needs, how to reduce the cost, and how to reorganize it rationally. For this purpose, one has to imagine a war, to presume that one is at war. But this has to be done at a national level, because if one starts requesting military advice, each sector may start to make its interest prevail. If we imagine a war, we will find that we only have two potential enemies: Chile and Brazil.

Preference is granted to the land forces on the criteria that currently prevails in the military plans. The Air Force is merely a fire support force for the land force, it is the force that clears the path for the Army. "Attack that target because it is preventing my forces from advancing." What is being contemplated now is a great strategic land maneuver which seeks to invade and occupy the enemy's territory. But I do not think we need to occupy other territories, and less still feed the people living on that occupied land because we do not have the financial means to do so and because we already have enough problems in our own country. What is the purpose of looking for more?

But let us return to the case of Chile with whom the possibilities of a confrontation are greater since our frictions go back in history. The Andes Mountain Range is the natural means of defense of our two countries. We have to cross the Andes to reach each other. The Armed Forces, undoubtedly, can do so at the lowest cost and more effectively. In view of this, we believe that the planning criteria should be modified. There are two universal theories: occupation of the enemy's territory or dissuasion, and this is where the key of the problem lies. The best thing for us would be to dissuade the enemy from attacking us, because he is aware that we can react promptly and effectively. And in order to dissuade the enemy, we do not need large forces, just a small armed force well equipped with the most sophisticated arms that will dissuade the enemy from attacking because he is aware that we can react to that attack within 4 hours and cause him great damage. This is how most modern countries operate.

[Sallas] How high is the foreign debt of the other forces?

[Simari] The foreign debt of only one of them amounts to \$1.8 billion.

[Sallas] Does the phrase "the military men that do not agree with our plans must go" stem from Government House?

[Simari] Yes, that is very true. The commander in chief's decisions are unquestionable. They are carried out. The person who makes a decision must say so, because if not he is being dishonest. We cannot put up with dishonest military men who only stay to warm seats. The right to disagree belongs to all of us. The subservient officers are going to make a mistake in the joint military plan and in the decisions they may make. If they are going to agree to everything they are told, well then...this is going to be terrible.

[Sallas] When you said farewell, you quoted Saint Paul by saying "it has been a good fight." Would you say, Gen Simari, that you won this fight or that you lost it?

[Simari] The future will tell. If after this the capabilities and meaning of the Air Force are acknowledged, then I will have won the battle. And if that is the case, then I would not mind the loss of 37 years of experience. However, if everything goes on as before and the structure of the Joint Chiefs of Staff is not changed, then my efforts will remain a mere expression of wishes and of a great conviction. But I was too concerned to remain silent. They were making a mistake and I do not want them to make mistakes. As a military officer, a citizen, and an Argentine, I must struggle to make sure that everything will be successful. However, still quoting Saint Paul, I could say that it has not only been a good fight, but that I have concluded my career and kept the faith.

SALE OF MEAT PROHIBITED 12-18 MARCH; PRICES SET

PY101519 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2350 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 9 Mar (TELAM) -- The Commerce Secretariat tonight released some resolutions establishing a prohibition on meat sales, a maximum price for chicken, and a postponement of the deadline for payments for cattle.

By Resolution 170, it has been forbidden as of 0000 Monday, 12 March, until 2400 Friday, 16 March, to slaughter cattle for domestic consumption. Also forbidden is the sale of meat for domestic consumption between 12 and 18 March.

Until 18 March, it is forbidden to prepare and serve dishes containing meat in restaurants, hotels, and in all other establishments in which food is served or sold for consumption outside these places. It was explained that the resolution does not include the sale of empanadas, sausage, dried meat, and pork products.

These measures will be in effect in the Federal Capital, Province of Buenos Aires, and in the cities of Rosario and Cordoba, and violations will be punished according to Law 20680.

The preamble to the resolutions states that given the circumstances in marketing cattle, it has been necessary to establish these exceptional measures.

SIX GOVERNORS SIGN PARANA RIVER ACCORD

PY111740 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 11 Mar 84 p 13

[Text] Parana (NA-DYN) -- Six northeastern governors yesterday signed the Parana Declaration at the close of a two-day conference which devoted considerable attention to both the problems and potential of the many rivers in Argentina's northeast, focussing on floods and hydroelectric projects in the region. The next meeting will be on May 18, although northeastern governors will receive an earlier opportunity to discuss federal revenue-sharing at a nationwide governors' meeting on April 27.

The main federal government representatives at the meeting were Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli and Energy Secretary Conrado Storani. The latter floated the possibility of increasing the provincial share of the Salto Grande hydroelectric dam royalties by five or 10 percent. The present provincial share is about 10 million dollars.

Storani also predicted that the Yacyreta hydroelectric project would be completed "in eight or nine years' time" and that the construction of a gas pipeline in the region and a Formosa petrochemicals plant would "begin and end during the administration of Raul Alfonsin." A 30-million-dollar World Bank loan for transport development to aid regional agricultural exports was also announced.

In the closing address, Troccoli concentrated on national issues. He pointed out that the foreign debt had been accumulated on behalf of "speculators" rather than industrial investment or wages. Troccoli called it "an act of suicide and a political crime" that productivity and purchasing power were now lower than in 1970.

Agricultural Secretary Lucio Reca justified this week's meat ban by pointing out that meat consumption had risen by 250 million kgs so far this year as a result of the government's wage policies. Housing secretariat advisor Osvaldo Schwartzer reported that there were 23,493 housing starts in the region.

The six signatories of the Parana declaration were Radicals Sergio Montiel of Entre Rios and Ricardo Barrios Arrecgea of Misiones, Peronists Jose Maria Vernet of Santa Fe, Florencio Tenev of Chaco, and Floro Bogado of Formosa, and Autonomist Jose Antonio Romero Feris of Corrientes.

LABOR LEADER LECHIN SAYS COUP POSSIBLE ANY TIME

PY121513 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0108 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Lima, 11 Mar (EFE) -- Bolivian labor leader Juan Lechin Oquendo today stated in Lima that "a coup d'etat could take place in Bolivia at any moment because there is a group of military officers ready for it."

Lechin, executive secretary of the Bolivian Labor Federation [COB], stated that regardless of this situation, there are groups of democrats in the military that respect the government elected freely by the people. Lechin, who spent a few hours in Lima on his way to Paris for "health" reasons, stated that the Latin American countries must seek alternatives to borrowing from the IMF to bail out of the crisis. In this regard, he said that he has not yet received an official answer from the Bolivian Government on the COB proposal to delay the payment of the Bolivian foreign debt and to sell part of the gold reserves, which amount to \$350 million.

Regarding the narcotics trade, Lechin said that the U.S. intention to replace coca plantations in the producing countries "is useless" since "the United States itself has not eliminated the enormous cocaine market in its own territory."

Discusses Political Issues

PY121720 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1100 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Before leaving the country, Juan Lechin Oquendo, executive secretary of the Bolivian Labor Federation [COB], told the media that, undoubtedly, there are some disagreements between the leadership of the Bolivian Communist Party [PCB] which is represented in the government cabinet, and PCB union leaders, which for over 25 years have struggled against imperialism, because the latter find it difficult to accept the new stances being adopted by the party within the government. Lechin made these statements before leaving for Paris, via Lima, at 1100 yesterday. He said that I am feeling much better, I am now convalescing, and I need some peace which revolutionary and progressive union and political leaders do not enjoy. I have had four or five serious spells of bronchitis. In pointing out that he will return to the country in about 18 to 20 days, Lechin said that the French Government will cover the expenses of the treatment he will undergo in Paris. My fare was paid by German and Belgium organizations, therefore, neither the COB, the miners federation, myself, nor the government will have to fork out any money.

INTERIOR MINISTRY INVESTIGATES SMUGGLED ARMS

PY130116 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] The Interior Ministry is investigating the whereabouts of more than 400 small arms that had been introduced into the country by Bolivian Air Lloyd pilot Alberto Pardo, who is now in the custody of U.S. law enforcement officials. This information was provided to journalists by Interior Minister Federico Alvarez Plata, who added that the consignees to those arms are not known, although the characteristics of the arms are known.

FIGUEIREDO TO PROPOSE CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS

PY122218 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 12 Mar 84 p 3

[Text] Brasilia -- Next Thursday President Joao Figueiredo will announce that he intends to promote a broad constitutional reform, including the reestablishment of direct presidential elections for a successor to the next president. He will, however, underscore the fact that the next president will be elected in 1985 by the Electoral College as stated in the Constitution.

The information was provided yesterday by PDS [Social Democratic Party] sources who have access to Planalto Palace. The sources noted that next Thursday, 15 March, Figueiredo will complete the fifth and next to last year of his term and will inaugurate the election year of his successor. Therefore, it is important that he make clear his position regarding the coming presidential election which, according to the sources, will be indirect despite the pressures being exerted by opposition parties that have been calling at rallies around the country for the immediate reestablishment of direct presidential elections.

In the speech President Figueiredo will deliver at the Campos Basin [off-shore oil drilling field], where he will go for the occasion, the president will remind the nation that the country is going through a serious economic crisis and that the situation should not be worsened by creating political confrontations. The process of political liberalization continues, but it should be done calmly.

The sources said that although Figueiredo wants to maintain the existing constitutional rules for the election of his successor, he will let it be understood in his speech that he will promote a broad constitutional reform. In that way he will set the stage for shortly sending to Congress an amendment restoring direct presidential elections for the successor to the next president.

According to the sources, the amendment is being prepared by Civilian Cabinet Chief Leitao de Abreu and PDS Chamber of Deputies leader Nelson Marchezan. It will also reduce the presidential term of office from 6 to 4 or 5 years. Despite the existence of different ways of thinking in the PDS (reestablishment of direct elections in 1988, or 1989, or 1990), the balance is tilting toward those who want direct elections in 1988.

In addition to restoring direct elections for president of the nation, mayors of mineral spas [as published], and municipalities classified as areas of national security, the amendment will make the president unable to dictate decrees on tax measures, but he will still be able to dictate decrees on national security matters and on creation of public jobs. Under the amendment, the decrees will no longer be approved by the existing constitutional mechanism whereby decrees automatically pass if Congress does not act on them within 30 days plus 10 sessions after they have been introduced by the executive branch.

The sources also said that the amendment will reestablish congressional prerogatives, that is, Congress will have greater participation in making decisions on almost all questions, except financial questions. Under the current Constitution, the president is exclusively empowered to take initiatives on laws on financial matters.

The same sources said that the government will submit the amendment proposing all these reforms by the end of the month, so it can be voted on before the Dante de Oliveira (Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party from Mato Grosso) Amendment [scheduled to be voted on 25 April] reestablishing direct presidential elections immediately for this coming election. According to the sources, that decision was made at a meeting in Planalto Palace last week that was attended by President Joao Figueiredo, Civilian Cabinet Chief Joao Leitao de Abreu, Military Cabinet Chief Rubem Ludwig, Land Affairs Minister Danilo Venturini, National Intelligence Service Chief Octavio de Medeiros, Social Security and Welfare Minister Jarbas Passarinho, Justice Minister Ibrahim Abi-Ackel, PDS President Senator Jose Sarney, government leader in the Chamber of Deputies Nelson Marchezan, and government Senate Leader Aloysio Chaves.

According to the sources, at the meeting Minister Abi-Ackel opposed sending any government amendment to Congress, because he thought the PDS already has a guaranteed majority in the Electoral College; thus there was no reason for bringing up the question of direct elections. Senators Sarney and Chaves would like to see the government decision on submitting its amendment made only after the De Oliveira Amendment is voted on and possibly defeated. Despite the fact that Leitao de Abreu and Marchezan were in the minority, their opinion prevailed. Both want the amendment to be sent to Congress immediately, on the premise that the PDS simply cannot vote against the reestablishment of direct elections this year without offering something in exchange. This position will be reaffirmed by President Joao Figueiredo in his 15 March speech.

COMMUNIST PARTY TO REQUEST LEGALIZATION

PY122250 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 11 Mar 84 p 7

[Text] Porto Alegre -- The national commission in charge of the legalization of the Brazilian Communist Party (PCB), which will announce it has submitted its request for registration to the Supreme Electoral Court [TSE] on 25 March, has already elected 66 of the 101 members of the National Provisional Commission. In its manifesto, the new political party will assert that it upholds "full defense of human rights, political and ideological pluralism, free mass movements, as well as respect for representative expressions of national sovereignty."

As two members of the National Provisional Commission (former National Committee of Communist Leaders that replaced the Central Committee have disclosed, the 25th was chosen to announce that the request for registration had been submitted to the TSE, after being registered by a notary public, since this date marks the 62d anniversary of the foundation of the PCB. Among other issues, the PCB will also disclose its manifesto, guidelines, and party statutes.

Youngsters between the ages 16 and 18 may join the party and form a special group, "so long as they agree with the party's doctrine and programmatic principles." The party statutes include an innovation, the creation of special campaign committees registered with the Electoral Court. During elections, they will be in charge of coordinating the candidates' publicity, the organization of elections, radio and television programs, etc.

The two leaders of the National Provisional Commission said that the PCB will abide by the Electoral Court's regulations for its registration and that they believe that, initially, the party will be able to appoint provisional regional commissions in almost every state.

The two leaders also disclosed that the PCB manifesto is currently undergoing final changes and that the Communists are "committed to the democratic reorganization of Brazilian society and to the struggle for national independence and for socialism."

According to the manifesto, the PCB considers itself "an ideological and political current in national life that expresses the feelings and anxieties of a vast sector of Brazilian society, especially the workers." It also points out that the Communists "can no longer be treated as a police case" and that the PCB "claims the right to fully exercise citizenship."

In its guidelines to be submitted to the TSE, the PCB blames "the implementation of a dependent capitalist development model in our country as well as an extremely unstable and antidemocratic political situation" for the current Brazilian crisis. "This dependent capitalist model has not solved any of Brazil's historic problems; quite the contrary, it has maintained and increased them, creating new problems and increasing the already existing contradictions." Therefore, the PCB guidelines point to socialism as a solution, stressing that its support is no longer the exclusive prerogative of the workers and Communists and that more and more groups, parties, and different social and political movements look to socialism as their main objective and reference. The PCB believes that a democracy of the masses is the "path for socialism in Brazil," but that this should imply economic and social changes.

According to the statutes of the PCB, which will establish its legal address in Brasilia, the party will carry out its national political activities to seek national emancipation, a representative and democratic regime based on a multiparty system and respect for human rights. A person interested in becoming a member must accept "the social theory developed by Marx and later developed by Lenin as a scientific method to analyze reality."

In the economic field, the party's program proposes that "priority investments and government incentives should be focused on activities that will broaden the domestic market and the potential of the job market, on the suppression of any type of government incentives to multinational groups, and that government support should be granted to national enterprises." The Communists also advocate a review of tax policy, which would include an increase in taxes on capital profit, and a review of the exploitation of energy sources and natural resources by the state together with national enterprises.

URANIUM ENRICHMENT PRODUCTION TO BEGIN IN 1985

PY121744 Paris AFP in Spanish 2333 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 11 Mar (AFP) -- It was reported here today that in 1985 Brazil will begin producing enriched uranium at the Brazilian Nuclear Corporation complex in Rezende, Rio de Janeiro State. The report, released by the newspaper JORNAL DO COMERCIO, neither confirmed nor denied by the appropriate organizations, added that the jet nozzle [chorro centrifugo] process will be used for the enrichment of uranium. The jet nozzle process patent is shared by Brazil and the FRG.

The industrial complex in Rezende is made up of a factory for fuel elements dedicated on 20 October 1982; a plant for uranium enrichment and for the conversion of uranium concentrate into uranium hexafluoride; and another factory for the manufacturing of elements necessary for the separation of isotopes.

According to the press report, the production of enriched uranium through the jet nozzle process -- which in its first stage will total 64 tons yearly -- will be controlled by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

FINANCE MINISTER ON 1984 ECONOMIC PROSPECTS

PY091930 Rio de Janeiro MANCHETE in Portuguese 10 Mar 84 pp 94, 95

["Text" of interview with Finance Minister Ernane Galveas by Allan Caruso of MANCHETE -- date and place not given]

[Excerpt] [Caruso] How does the Brazilian economic profile look for 1984?

[Galveas] Brazil, as part of the Western Hemisphere, should benefit from the general conditions of the world-wide economic recovery. Our country's economic activity has been throttled since 1981, and we expect that, beginning in the second half of 1984, it will begin to show a trend toward resumption of economic growth, for two reasons: First, because we had a good harvest that should begin to enter the market in April-May this year, thus producing positive results; and, second, because we have a very reasonable performance by our exports, which are growing at an average yearly rate of 9 percent, which should continue throughout 1984. These two factors, agriculture and exports, are bound to be the most important factors for the resumption of Brazil's development process.

[Caruso] Will we be able to reach the target of a \$9-billion trade balance surplus, despite excessive protectionism?

[Galveas] We are firmly convinced that the \$9-billion trade balance surplus is an attainable objective. We have conducted surveys on several occasions and reviewed our projections accordingly. Our conviction is reinforced by our findings that the export of primary products is performing reasonably, and the export of our manufactured goods is greatly expanding. In January of this year, for instance, total exports expanded by nearly 9 percent compared with January 1983, while the export of manufactured goods grew by 24 percent. This tells us that, if the trend holds, our exports will reach \$25 billion. The present trend shows that imports should stay at the \$16-billion mark or even below, thus providing a margin of safety to attain the \$9-billion surplus which is indispensable for our balance of payments.

[Caruso] How will the problem of protectionist barriers in industrialized countries be tackled?

[Galveas] The export sector should tackle this problem with aggressiveness. I really do not have much hope that the industrialized countries will change their attitude toward the protectionist practices being resorted to in the international market. From conversations we have had with representatives of various governments, we have the impression that there is no initiative on the part of the major industrial countries to lift the protectionist barriers erected around their traditional industries. Brazil has lived with those forms of protectionism, but it should continue the struggle to bring down those barriers in our traditional markets, especially the nontariff import barriers. We should also try to open new markets for selling our manufactured goods.

[Caruso] Were you frightened by the January inflation rate? And how will inflation go from February onward?

[Galveas] The January inflation rate did not frighten me, because January and February have always been high inflation months for several reasons: First, year-ends are generally characterized by a strong expansion of the money supply, causing a liquidity spillover into January and February. There is not enough time to absorb the liquidity created by the intensification of economic and commercial activities at the end of the year. This explains the inflationary push in the January-February period. Second, there is what has become known as Gregorian inflation, that is, the automatic price markup due to the passage from one business year to another business year. Brazilian businessmen, and this is nothing new, generally follow a price policy of marking up their stocks as the calendar year turns over, thus setting off a trend, which has already become traditional, of rising prices in the first 2 months of the year.

The fight against inflation in 1984, especially during the second half of the year, will profit greatly from the harvest of farm products which will be marketed from April onwards. That harvest, especially the grain harvest, will undoubtedly lead to stable prices for farm products, thus reversing the trend set during the second half of 1983 and the first 2 months of 1984. On the other hand, in the financial and fiscal fields all necessary steps to enforce a strong policy for curbing inflation were taken, including the restriction of the money supply well below the rate of inflation, a controlled expansion of credit for the public sector, a fiscal policy directed mainly at reducing the deficits at state-run enterprises, and the elimination or reduction of subsidies to consumption of oil and wheat in particular, as well as of built-in subsidies in rural and export credits.

All those steps are part of a strategy for fighting inflation which was adopted a few months ago. Since there is a time lag for such a strategy to yield results, these should be forthcoming in the second quarter of the year.

[Caruso] Are the U.S. charges that we practice dumping valid?

[Galveas] Regarding the charges of dumping made by some U.S. industrial sectors, I believe there is some exaggeration and misrepresentation in the way they were filed. This is obviously a defense mechanism used by U.S. industries that have no capacity to compete with the new industries emerging in developing countries. Brazil is at present well equipped to compete as an equal in international markets with products such as shoes, textiles, steel, and others. We have the possibility of doubling our exports to and imports from the United States even in the short-term, were it not for the tariff and nontariff import restrictions imposed by the U.S. Government at the request of U.S. industries. It is therefore unfortunate and contradictory that the United States should resist the entry of Brazilian products every time a U.S. industry sees itself threatened in the competitive process. But these are part of the American rules, part of the Trade Act, and the U.S. Government simply responds to requests made by U.S. industries, and it does not have much possibility or political will to disregard those requests.

[Caruso] What kind of interest rates can be expected over the medium-term?

[Galveas] It is very difficult to predict the evolution of interest rates. They are largely related to inflationary expectations for the near future. There are reasons today for high interest rates: First, inflation is moving at a fast rate and market expectations are very unfavorable. Most businessmen and consumers do not believe that inflation will decline, so they can only expect that both the rate of inflation and the rate of interest will continue to climb. This makes the task of the government more difficult, both in fighting inflation and in promoting the resumption of economic growth which depends on the rate of investment and, consequently, on the rates of interest. On the other hand, we have the negative influence of the international interest rates which, basically, set the bottom line for interest rates within an economy that is widely open to the outside, as is the Brazilian economy.

BRIEFS

1983 TRADE WITH U.S. -- Rio de Janeiro, 3 Mar (EFE) -- According to a Bank of Brazil report, Brazilian exports to the United States in 1983 increased by 25.53 percent. Brazilian trade with the United States yielded a positive balance of \$2.650 billion, since Brazil has reduced imports of U.S. goods by 15.80 percent. In 1983 Brazil closed its overall trade balance with a surplus of \$6.400 billion, of which 44 percent represents the surplus of its trade with the United States. [Summary] [Madrid EFE in Spanish 2219 GMT 3 Mar 84 PY]

FRENCH AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL CONTRACT -- Paris -- Yesterday in Paris the Brazilian Aeronautics Ministry signed a contract with the French company Thompson-CSF for \$50 million to develop Brazil's infrastructure for air traffic control. [Summary] [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 2 Mar 84 p 25 PY]

XINGU PLANE REMODELED -- The pressurized Xingu plane will be remodeled to carry 10 passengers, and it will be equipped with a 1,150-hp Pratt and Whitney turbine engine to cruise at a speed of 510 kph. Its price will, however, be lower: approximately \$2.3 million. [Summary] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 25 Jan 84 p 19 PY]

1983 TEXTILE, FIBER EXPORTS -- Rio de Janeiro, 11 Feb (AFP) -- In 1983, Brazil exported 125,822 tons of cotton threads and fabrics worth \$340,684,000; 1,032 tons of silk threads worth \$26,093,000; and 90,665 tons of sisal fibers worth \$33,756,000. This information was released by the Foreign Trade Department [CACEX] of the Bank of Brazil. [Summary] [Paris AFP in Spanish 1342 GMT 11 Feb 84 PY]

EL MERCURIO SAYS U.S. SUPPORT 'ESSENTIAL'

PY121708 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 5 Mar 84 p 13

[Editorial: "A U.S. Concern"]

[Text] U.S. Ambassador James Theberge recently reported the opinion of his government on the pace with which Chile is moving toward democracy. According to the U.S. Government, the political opening launched in August apparently slowed down recently and this could be interpreted as a bad sign for the prospects of the process. According to Ambassador Theberge, the North Americans hope that a true transition toward a stable democracy will continue.

Chilean domestic affairs will obviously be resolved by the Chileans themselves. No one doubts this, and this should be accepted by the U.S. Government. However, there is equally no doubt that the Western powers have an opinion on the kind of governments that Latin American nations should have, and there is no doubt that the United States has a lengthy background of attempting politically to guide the governments of Latin America. It is true that the balance of U.S. sorties into Latin America is discouraging, probably because of poor communications between the southern nations and the United States, but experience teaches us that the opinions of the North Americans should not be ignored.

Support from the Washington government could be essential for a political project. Despite the lack of understanding that the United States has shown toward Latin American problems, one is forced to admit a fact which is beyond our power to change: the influence of the United States. However, countries like Chile can make the North Americans change their opinions substantially by making public the proposals and basis of their proposals. If these plans were conceived and drawn up properly, nothing should prevent them from having the support of the great Western power.

But just as the citizens of the United States, in general, do not seem to be greatly interested in our affairs, the Chilean Government does not appear to realistically assess the significance of U.S. opinion and when certain domestic political measures are implemented, the government does not take into account the repercussions abroad. The isolationist mentality common in our fatherland is out of place nowadays. The relations between the two countries are very important and should be carefully nurtured by both sides.

The independence with which we Chileans will decide our political future is not up for discussion. However, the decisions which will be taken could be relayed and explained in such a way that friendly countries will understand why a given course of action is taken. If transition seems to be more difficult now than a few months ago, as the Reagan government and quite a few Chileans believe, intelligent people in both nations will understand the reasons for this if someone bothers to explain it to them.

FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH U.S. AMBASSADOR

PY122039 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1615 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Excerpts] During a 40-minute meeting held in the Foreign Ministry Red Hall, Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle provided U.S. Ambassador James Theberge with background information about the Chilean political transition process. The U.S. diplomat gave no details of the conversation.

Last week, Foreign Minister Del Valle announced that he would provide Ambassador Theberge with background information that would prove that the opinion that he and his government have about Chile is quite wrong.

Last week the U.S. ambassador said that the transition process leading toward a stable and lasting democratic opening was stagnant. Theberge also remarked that the return of democracy to Chile favors the interests of the United States, of the Chilean people, and of neighboring nations.

Today, after the meeting with Minister Del Valle, Ambassador Theberge said that the conversation was confidential and proceeded very cordially.

According to information leaked by well-informed Foreign Ministry sources, Foreign Minister Del Valle was annoyed at the publicity that Ambassador Theberge gave to the U.S. Government concern over the Chilean process.

For his part, Ambassador Theberge said that relations between Chile and his country are good. He today refused to give an opinion on the Chilean democratization process.

CARVAJAL CALLS FOR GRADUAL RETURN TO DEMOCRACY

PY121921 Paris AFP in Spanish 0225 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Santiago, 11 Mar (AFP) -- The Chilean defense minister, Rear Admiral Patricio Carvajal, has urged the followers of the military regime to organize a democratic federation to prepare the gradual return to civilian rule. Carvajal's call was heard at the same time that President General Augusto Pinochet was announcing his intention to hold a plebiscite to establish the political basis which will allow the return to democracy. Speaking at an official ceremony in the presence of President Pinochet and members of the military Government Junta, Carvajal stated: We feel it is just and correct to continue gradually toward our political future for the establishment of full democracy.

At the end of the ceremony, which ended with a sermon at Maipu Chapel, groups of youths tried to stage a demonstration shouting antigovernment slogans, but they were repressed by police. Eyewitnesses said that at least three demonstrators were arrested.

We feel that for the good of the country, Carvajal went on to say, the first thing that must be achieved is a democratic union, perhaps a broad and flexible federation, whose leaders, with no personal ambitions, will first ask themselves what is the real interest of the state. He added: We feel that we who support the government are the majority, and we also feel that we have people with more moral and professional quality than the opposition. In an indirect reference to the opposition Democratic Alliance and the Popular Democratic Movement coalitions, which demand the resignation of General Pinochet, Carvajal warned those deluded persons not to think that they are going to deceive the military with flattering words or siren songs.

The minister also harshly criticized the position of foreign organizations that, violating the principle of nonintervention, have tried to give us lessons in democracy or to impose their interests on us.

PRC LEADER SCORES PINOCHET, CARVAJAL SPEECHES

PY122339 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1615 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Christian Democratic Party [PDC] President Gabriel Valdes has said that in the speech he delivered yesterday, President Augusto Pinochet just reiterated his desire to remain in power.

[Begin Valdes recording] As on many other occasions -- although I believe this has always been the case -- General Pinochet's words have disappointed the nation. The mass media, government supporters, and sources close to the executive branch had encouraged the expectation that far-reaching changes, suitable to deal with the current crises, would be proposed. However, the speech proposes patchwork, meaningless economic measures that will have no reactivation effect and that have already been discussed, vague announcements on a reform involving political parties, and a soft and vague call for a plebiscite, a plebiscite to be held on a date that nobody knows. The objective of all this is to extend the government term to 1989. Therefore, this is another demonstration of the willingness to maintain the status quo. [end recording]

Concerning the announcement of an upcoming plebiscite, Valdes reiterated that the opposition will not accept it, particularly because parties have no membership records and because there is no freedom to participate in such an event.

[Begin Valdes recording] It is impossible to call for a plebiscite without party membership records, without full freedom of information and access to all the media, with parties that cannot express their opinion and with a situation in which not everybody enjoys the same rights. It is unacceptable that a person who orders what is to be done, thought of, and said, and who disqualified those who disagree, should say that we are approaching democracy; and he claims that he will conduct democracy. This is not a method for conducting democracy, but for perpetuating a dictatorship. [end recording]

Valdes was also asked about the statement by Defense Minister Rear Admiral Patricio Carvajal that the Armed Forces do not want the terms established in the Constitution to be changed.

[Begin Valdes recording] I was impressed by this surprising statement by the defense minister, whose specific duties have nothing to do with politics. The issue should have been discussed by the interior minister. But here comes the defense minister talking about politics, saying that power cannot be handed over to parties on the grounds that chaos would follow. He calls upon those who support the Constitution, that is, those who support the government, (?to create) a democratic federation. He makes no call to the opposition. His statements are a reason for concern, because he claims that government supporters make up a majority and that opposition members are dreamers. I believe you are wrong, Mr Admiral. I think we will answer his statements in due time because they do not agree with historical fact. [end recording]

Valdes concluded by saying that the speech delivered by President Pinochet did nothing to resolve the serious crisis afflicting the nation.

AIR FORCE CHIEF ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

PY130203 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1615 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Air Force Commander in Chief General Fernando Matthei has said that the Government Junta has made an initial analysis of the constitutional amendment bill. He made this announcement to reporters at Government House, where he went to attend a birthday party that General Augusto Pinochet hosted honoring Lieutenant General Cesar Benavides. Gen Matthei said that the bill to amend the Constitution is confidential, and that he would not comment on a question whether the Government Junta had already rejected another version of the amendment bill. The Air Force Commander also said that the issue is extremely urgent, although he remarked that it is being analyzed calmly.

Matthei then admitted the possibility that the issue may no longer be regarded as urgent, insisting that since the executive branch considers the project confidential, Government Junta members cannot disclose its details. He underlined that the project is labeled "secret," and that no date has been set for its approval.

Asked about the contradiction between what General Pinochet said yesterday, that the issue would not be treated behind the people's back, and the confidential nature of the project, Gen Matthei answered: It is you who are saying that, not me. I honestly believe that it is not my duty either to analyze or to criticize the speech by the president. That is the task of political commentators.

When asked whether he believed it appropriate to make the project public so that it could be discussed, Matthei answered: Yes, but we will obviously not do that if we do not reach an agreement with the president.

GOVERNMENT TO BEGIN 'CONVERSATION' WITH CHURCH

PY130239 Paris AFP in Spanish 0136 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Santiago, 12 Mar (AFP) -- The Chilean military government will initiate conversations with the hierarchy of the Catholic Church to smooth out the turbulent relations between them and avoid an impending crisis arising from mutual accusations. Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa indicated that the conversation will begin in the next few days, and he expressed the hope that positive solutions can be found for the recent misunderstandings. Jarpa said that complaints can be made and solutions proposed in conversations, adding that there is a good atmosphere to solve this problem.

Church-government relations became abruptly strained on 16 January, after the nunciature granted asylum to four leftists and the Pinochet regime denied them permission to leave the country, disregarding a personal petition by Pope John Paul II. Relations hit a new low when the president accused several priests of participating in demonstrations in Punta Arenas 2 weeks ago when in an unprecedented event he was jeered by hundreds of people.

CNI RAIDS SCHOOL, DETAINS 18; AD PROTESTS

PY092015 Paris AFP in Spanish 1407 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Santiago, 9 Mar (AFP) -- The Democratic Alliance [AD], the largest coalition of parties in the country, today reported in Santiago the detention of a group of Chilean Socialists, which AD termed a scandalous publicity maneuver by the military government to repress the opposition. These persons were detained Wednesday by the government's secret police [National Intelligence Center -- CNI] in a raid on a private school in Santiago.

The CNI stated that a clandestine printing press was operating in the school and that subversive writings, ammunition, uniforms, parts to manufacture bombs, plans, and maps to carry out sabotage were found. The agents detained 18 men and women. The CNI reported that the group belongs to the Socialist Party of Chile, and that it is led by Juan Gutierrez Soto, a member of the party's board and owner of the school.

The AD reported, however, that during the raid, the CNI, supported by Carabineros (militarized police), brought in the uniforms and the armaments from one of its pickup trucks, according to the testimony of some neighbors.

This trick is part of a government campaign aimed at accusing the opposition of using methods opposed to its line of action, the AD stated in its protest.

The Socialist Party is a member of the AD together with the Social Democratic Party, the Christian Democratic Party, the Republican Party of the Right, and the Christian Left. This coalition demands the resignation of President Augusto Pinochet as the only way to solve the critical and protracted economic and social crisis in Chile.

According to Socialist leader Ricardo Nunez, the detentions carried out at the school indicate a repressive escalation against the group which opposes the military regime installed 10 years ago. This is an orchestration to unleash disorder in response to the call for a peaceful protest against the government on 27 March by the Workers National Command, it was said. The call for a general protest, the eighth this year, was supported by the AD and the Popular Democratic Movement, the other large dissident coalition headed by the Communist Party.

According to official sources, the protest is part of a subversive plan which includes attacks on police and military quarters, sabotage, terrorist attacks, and the broadcasting of proclamations by radios occupied by armed commandos.

The newspaper LA NACION, owned by the government, stated that the Socialist group detained by the CNI will reportedly use this strategy in the northern neighborhood of Santiago. Mass Murders: Basic Plan for March, HOY stated in its main front-page headline, giving an account of an alleged plan of attacks on policemen and military officers aborted by the raid on the school.

SOCIAL DEMOCRATS: CNI RAIDS HEADQUARTERS

PY101746 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1529 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] Santiago, 10 Mar (EFE) -- The Chilean Social Democratic Party today reported that agents of the National Intelligence Center (CNI) raided its headquarters in downtown Santiago early Friday morning.

Social Democratic leaders Mario Sharpe and Duberildo Jaque said that "as part of an obvious wave of government violence, individuals who claimed to be CNI members attacked our party headquarters at 764 Paris Street, office No 40." They went on to say that "this action again confirms that this organization acts illegally because, lacking the power to legally enter and search, it resorts to forceful breaking and entering."

Sharpe and Jaque added that "although people who work in the building reported the raid immediately to Carabineros, the latter did not take a hand in the matter." They said that "it makes one think when something like this is done just when a press conference is to be held at this place to report the outrages perpetrated under the ill-styled anti-terrorist laws which, it so happens, grants the CNI enormous powers."

The Social Democratic leaders reported that "among other things destroyed was a photograph of the revered trade union leader and martyr Tucapel Jimenez."

Together with the Christian Democratic Party, the Radical Party, the Republican Party of the Right, and the Socialist Party, the Social Democratic Party is part of the multi-party Democratic Alliance coalition.

LABOR LEADER COMMENTS ON POLITICAL SITUATION

PY091545 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0346 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Mendoza, 8 Mar (TELAM) -- Chile's most important opposition union leader, Rudolfo Seguel, has stated that our objective is to have democracy restored by peaceful means and to join forces, primarily by uniting the political parties which are now split into two groups. In comments to TELAM tonight, Seguel went on to say: "We intend to continue demonstrating that the Chilean workers have power, the same power that all workers in the world have, when they are organized. We are working hard on it, but for a long time there have been no talks with the government."

He added: "There is much repression. I would say that you know very well what it is like to live under a military regime, as tough and as strong as the one we have in Chile today. Workers are being widely persecuted, especially we leaders of the trade union movement, and there are no relations whatsoever with the regime. We also have disappearances, as happened in Argentina, and the most recent case is that of a worker in Temuco -- in southern Chile -- who was killed, and a terrorist group appeared, claiming credit for this deed. We also have the case of Tucapel Jimenez, a union leader who was trying to do in Chile what we did, that is, unite the working class," Seguel said.

Asked how Chilean workers view the Argentine democratization, Seguel replied that the 90 days that democracy has been in effect in Argentina should be turned into many years, into an everlasting democracy, because both Argentina and Chile have endured dictatorships, repression, persecution, murder, death, exile, banishment, imprisonment, and torture, and this must never be forgotten by the working class and the people.

GOVERNMENT DISQUALIFIES 4 COPPER UNION LEADERS

PY122142 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1615 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] The Santiago Supervisory Labor Department has disqualified Copper Workers Confederation President Rodolfo Seguel and three other members of the confederation's executive board as labor leaders. Seguel blamed this action on a persecution campaign against labor leaders. He said he was sure that he and the three other leaders will have the support of the rank and file.

[Begin Seguel recording in progress] ... it was mainly for informing that the four leaders can no longer hold their posts because of resolutions which we have not yet seen since they have just been handed to us. This is a legal issue and our lawyer will see how to handle it so that we may defend ourselves. We believe this is part of the persecution of labor leaders, something to which we are accustomed. First, we will again receive the support of all copper workers. Second, all Chilean workers who support the cause of the Copper Confederation will also support us. [end recording]

El Teniente mine leader Manuel Rodriguez, Chuquicamata leader Ruben Rivera, and El Salvador leader Raul Montecinos were also disqualified as labor leaders.

Labor department inspector (Guillermo Romo Vio) served notice of the resolutions disqualifying the labor leaders.

Seguel ruled out the possibility of holding a special congress to confirm the disqualified leaders in their posts. He said he is confident that the legal action that they will take beginning today will yield positive results.

[Begin Seguel recording] Look, our lawyer will take care of this case in the normal fashion. We are confident that we will continue holding our posts as labor leaders. Therefore, it is not worth even thinking about convening a congress in connection with this situation. [end recording]

For his part, (Luis Eduardo Tayer), the lawyer of the Copper Workers Confederation, has said that the resolutions may be appealed within 5 days.

UNION LEADERS ATTEND MEETING WITH ICFTUO

PY091955 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1615 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Thirty-five Chilean union leaders are attending a meeting that began in Mendoza this morning. The leaders were invited by high-ranking leaders of the International Confederation of Free Trade Union Organizations, the ICFTUO, which is headquartered in Brussels. The meeting is also sponsored by the Argentine CGT, the General Confederation of Labor. Chilean union leader Juan Sepulveda, in his capacity as ICFTUO coordinator for Latin America, is one of the persons in charge of conducting the meeting.

Even though the main purpose of the meetings is to analyze different topics, the possibility of creating a single democratic union organization in Chile may be discussed.

Among the 35 Chilean union leaders are Rudolfo Seguel, Hernol Flores, Manuel Bustos, Federico Mujica, and Ernesto (Vogel). The meeting is also being attended by heads of federations that do not belong to the national workers command. Five exiled Chilean union leaders, headed by Luis (Meneses), are also attending the meeting.

The ICFTUO is represented by members of powerful organizations such as the U.S. AFL-CIO; the Inter-American Workers Organization, or OIT; and the UGTE, the General Union of Spanish Workers.

FIVE DETAINED WOMEN JOURNALISTS RELEASED

PY101752 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0406 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] Santiago, 9 Mar (EFE) -- Pablo Portales, chairman of the Chilean Journalists Association Metropolitan Council today told EFE that the five women reporters arrested during the commemoration of International Women's Day had been set free. Portales said that Monica Gonzalez, of the magazine CAUCE; Maria Ester Allaga, of the magazine APSI; Miriam Saa and Maria Veronica Martinez, of the Catholic Institute for Cooperative Education; and Liliana Martinez, Radio Francia correspondent, were set free by the Carabineros late Thursday night.

Most of the 100 women arrested during the different peaceful acts held in front of Government Palace, at the San Francisco Church Park, at the Ahumada Promenade, at the parade ground, at the Cariola Theater, and at other points of the city were also released.

Portales said that the women reporters "were mistreated at the moment of their arrest and again inside the police vehicles."

Statements issued by the national and the metropolitan councils of journalists have termed these events as "attacks on freedom of expression" and announced a request for a meeting with Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa to demand guarantees for the exercise of the journalistic profession in Chile.

LAWYER ACCUSED OF INSULTING PRESIDENT PINOCHET

PY101333 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] The legal representative of FORTIN MAPOCHO has been accused of making insulting statements against the president. Lawyer Sergio Arellano has thus become the target of two accusations in only 24 hours.

The first accusation against Arellano was made by the interior minister for participating in editing a (?publication) which had not asked for authorization to be published.

Minister Jarpa has now submitted a writ to the Court of Appeals, saying that the insults had been made on 5 March in a personal commentary read by Arellano over a radio station in Santiago. In his commentary, Sergio Arellano mentioned not only the president but also members of his family and immediate co-workers. The minister also suggested that it would be suitable to officially request the radio station which broadcast the commentary to hand over the recording of what Arellano said.

After the accusation was received by the Court of Appeals, Judge (Violeta Guzman) was appointed to try the case.

CLUSTER BOMB INTERESTS SEVERAL COUNTRIES

PY121747 Paris AFP in Spanish 1503 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Santiago, 12 Mar (AFP) -- Thirteen countries in Latin America and the Middle East are interested in the 500-pound cluster bomb that Chile is manufacturing, according to information released today in Santiago by the producing firm Cardoen Sua. The firm indicated that the potential clients will not be disclosed for the time being. To date the device, which is relatively new, had been supplied only to local armed forces and an Arab nation, displacing traditional European and U.S. suppliers.

Shortly after being launched, the bomb opens up, releasing 240 smaller devices which spread out to cover an elliptical area of up to 50,000 square meters.

The coverage varies according to the height at which the plane releases the bomb, the diving angle of the plane, and the electronic program which controls the rate of opening of the larger device, which may open anywhere between 2 and 58 seconds, according to Cardoen. One bomb is enough to stop several dozen armored vehicles.

The bomb can be launched safely from a fighter plane or a regular bomber even at the minimum height of 45 meters because of the way in which the pawl fins are designed, an improvement over the devices offered by the competitors.

Cardoen stated that, furthermore, the Chilean cluster bomb is 60-percent cheaper than its U.S. counterpart (the Rockeye) and its British counterpart (BL 775), and 80-percent cheaper than the French cluster bomb Belouga.

LIBERALS OBTAIN 'BROAD VICTORY' IN ELECTIONS

PA121448 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Bogota -- The Liberal Party appears to be the big political winner in the elections for councils and assemblies which were held yesterday in Colombia. Liberalism obtained a broad victory in 13 departments, in comparison to the 1980 elections. The conservatives, for their part, won in five departments. Fifteen hours after the closing of the elections, the country had not yet learned the electoral results in the five Departments of Caqueta, Cesar, Cordoba, Choco, and Sucre. The many lists and the absence of a means of classification at the sectional offices of the National Civil Registry prevented the timely delivery of these reports.

While results in these five departments are yet to be learned, the traditional parties have each surpassed a million votes. As of 0600, the National Civil Registry had counted a total of 3,195,761 votes, of which 1,356,088 are for the official Liberal Party, 520,305 for the Galanists [supporters of Luis Carlos Galan of the New Liberalism Movement], and 1,319,368 for the conservatives. Total Liberal votes amount to 1,876,393.

It is estimated that some 4 million Colombians voted yesterday. That means that across the country, abstention totals (?70) percent of the 14 million people who can vote. The Galanists obtained the most votes in Bogota and Cundinamarca, followed by Santander and Huila. Official Liberal voting is high in 95 percent of the country, compared to that of the Galanists.

POLICE BREAK UP INTERNATIONAL DRUG RING

PA122223 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1946 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Bogota, 12 Mar (DPA) -- The largest cocaine processing center operating in Latin America, located in an apparent guerrilla camp, was discovered by Colombian police on the border of the Yari River in the southeastern part of Colombia.

Forty people, three airplanes, and two helicopters were captured during the operation, according to General Victor Delgado Mallarino, general director of the Colombian police. The general noted that the operation was carried out last Saturday, and that a shipment of processed cocaine, estimated to be worth billions of dollars, was confiscated. The cocaine was being prepared for the U.S. black market.

The operation, headquartered in San Jose del Guaviare in Caqueta Department, was reinforced yesterday by Army commandos, because in a wide region of San Vicente del Caguan the police have been occupied fighting approximately 100 guerrillas, who are suspected members of the so-called Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC).

Coca leaves from Peru were sent for processing to the center, located on the banks of the Yari River in the Caqueta Jungle, where more than 100 narcotics agents fought with the guerrillas.

It has been established that the majority of those arrested, including technicians, chemists, and cultivators, ran an international drug ring. Caqueta Department was the point of departure for the drugs en route to the United States.

According to the police, the ring was based in the Bahamas and Cuba, where the guarded transfer of the drug onto DC-3 airplanes took place. Some of these airplanes were housed in an extremely modern clandestine airport used for drug trafficking.

The police director pointed out that the drug traffickers had constructed a 1,500-meter runway of sand and dirt.

M-19 CITED ON TIES WITH FARC, RIFT WITH PCC

PA091617 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Report by Francisco Crisanto Reyes]

[Text] Bogota -- Barely 60 hours before the start of the Mitaca electoral activities to elect assembly and municipal representatives nationwide, the 19 April Movement, M-19, has denied that conditions exist to (?order) a cease-fire. The M-19 added that it will resume the struggle against the so-called bourgeoisie and its Army. In a communique signed by Ivan Marino Ospina and Alvaro Fayad Delgado, members of the M-19 supreme command, the subversive organization emphasizes: Enough of so much demagoguery and lies to the people regarding the subject of peace.

The communique adds: We are fed up with Belisario's political sophistry, and our reaction will be felt throughout the nation.

Further on, the communique attacks the Communist Party of Colombia [PCC] because it does not represent any revolutionary movement. Likewise, the communique points out that the M-19 will continue struggling until Jacobo Arenas and Manuel Marulanda Velez decide to free themselves from their ties with the PCC, which is using them as instruments of pressure and electoral and economic support to soil, disrupt, and misrepresent the specific goals of a revolutionary organization which has struggled many years for our national liberation.

Referring to the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia [FARC], the communique says: We have partially identified ourselves with the FARC leaders because there are some basic similarities. However, the current situation and Vieira's [PCC secretary general] attack imposes a gap that the PCC insists on maintaining to prevent the development of our democratic, nationalist revolution and the socialism that we advocate.

BUSES MADE TARGETS OF TERRORIST ACTIONS

Bombs Planted at Terminal

PA091822 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Medellin -- Two buses belonging to the unsubsidized transportation service were seriously damaged today during a terrorist attack perpetrated on a bus terminal by members of the self-appointed People's Liberation Army [EPL]. According to the police report, several masked men broke into the Aranjuez-Santa Cruz bus terminal and placed two medium-powered bombs, which exploded and damaged several vehicles.

Before fleeing the man who perpetrated this attack left behind propaganda about the EPL.

Secret groups have organized an operation throughout the city to prevent further incidents which might disrupt order.

Clashes in Medellin

PA091722 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Medellin -- One policeman was shot and injured, and three unsubsidized buses were stoned in new disturbances last night in Medellin. The policeman was injured in clashes that took place on the Northern Freeway in the course of skirmishes held to protest what is regarded as excessive bus fare hikes.

Three buses were seriously damaged in Itagui by groups of demonstrators, who tried to recall past civic strikes.

Transporters in Cali have reiterated their intention to suspend service after the mid-term elections on Sunday following the burning of an urban transport bus last night in front of the Alfonso Lopez Neighborhood Gallery in northeastern Cali.

ADO WILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL DIALOGUE

PA101917 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] The revolutionary Workers Self-Defense Movement, ADO, this afternoon announced that as a result of a secret meeting with members of the Peace Commission it is willing to return to a democratic life and to participate in a national dialogue to seek peace and a democratic opening.

The political-military directorate of ADO gave Peace Commission President John Agudelo Rios a letter for President Belisario Betancur explaining its main views on the country's situation. The seven-page letter includes various proposals that clearly seek the best way to achieve national peace and the possibility of a truce and cease-fire.

ADO recounts the history of violence in Colombia, beginning with the fateful 9 April [date of assassination of Liberal presidential candidate Jorge Eliecer Gaitan in 1948] and states that violence began in Colombia when Laureano Gomez assumed power.

ADO then uses statistical charts to illustrate the monthly expenses of a worker with a wife and three children who is earning the minimum wage. ADO asks President Betancur to tour the poor neighborhoods of Bogota so he can see for himself that the situation is not good, as the current government is claiming.

ADO concludes its letter by stating: We are making this general proposal to you so that you will see once and for all that guerrillas are not terrorists. We are honorable men and women, ready to rescue a past of struggle and combat that has cost the people a great deal of blood and has often been futile. The time has come to seek solutions through reason or force. We hope it will be through reason. That is why we do not lose hope in addressing you, just as we do not lose hope for an honorable and better future for our people.

EXTENSIVE M-19 TERRORIST PLAN DISCOVERED

PA092233 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 4 Mar 84 p 2

[Text] Cali -- The Colombian Armed Forces have revealed a terrorist plan prepared by the self-styled subversive group M-19 [19 April Movement] to be executed this weekend in the Cauca Valley. According to official reports, the guerrilla movement had initially planned to steal the body of bacteriologist Nelly Vivas Robledo, who was killed in a plane crash in Panama along with M-19 leader Jaime Bateman Cayon. They then planned to take the body to Cali and bury it during ceremonies that would disrupt order.

The guerrilla group had planned to occupy several secondary schools, five churches, and government institutions. They had also planned to dynamite government offices and to steal shipments of milk and food, which would be distributed among residents in the Casablanca and Yumbo districts.

The terrorist escalation plan was discovered in an operation carried out by the Army and police in downtown Cali in which one of the M-19's highest officials was captured while carrying documents about the terrorist's plans. The rebel was identified as Ricardo Giron Fajardo, alias Commander Guillermo. He was captured at a home in the El Porvenir neighborhood in downtown Cali, where documents about the terrorist plan and abundant M-19 propaganda were found.

In addition, government security organizations are trying to determine whether the rifle shot fired at the north Bogota home of Israeli Ambassador to Colombia Hayim Aharon is connected to the terrorist plan discovered in Cali. The diplomat was not among the three people in the house, located on 7th Avenue and 93th Street, at the time of the attack.

M-19 ASKS PEACE COMMISSION FOR CEASE-FIRE

PA100044 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 5 Mar 84 pp 1, 3

[Report by Alvaro Almanza]

[Excerpt] In an open letter addressed to the National Peace Commission, the 19 April Movement (M-19) General Staff has proposed that a cease-fire be agreed upon. However, the M-19 has rejected a unilateral truce and has denied that any such agreement has been signed with the government.

EL SIGLO obtained an exclusive copy of the M-19 message from Commanders Ivan Marino Ospina and Alvaro Fayad Delgado to National Peace Commission President John Agudelo Rios in which they propose a cessation of hostilities in the various regions of the country so that the desired agreement between the government and the revolutionary organizations can be achieved.

The message says: "That is why we have said that the cease-fire is aimed at facing the problems of the majority, at looking at the country as a whole, not at simply stopping the fighting. It is a cease-fire aimed at finding the political, economic, and social solutions the people demand. The cease-fire is aimed at making possible, without combat, a meeting of all Colombians in order to implement social democracy and political democratic measures; in other words, holding national talks."

In relation to the prospects of signing a document with government representatives, M-19 leaders said that their organization has proven to be a champion of the policy of dialogue, but that it is not participating in talks to decide on possible meetings, locations, and plans which it knows nothing about.

BRIEFS

MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARY TO U.S. -- the Colombian Government recently appointed Dr Juan Diego Jaramillo minister plenipotentiary to the U.S. Government. [Summary] [Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 22 Feb 84 p 1 PA]

NEW MEXICAN AMBASSADOR -- New Mexican Ambassador Antonio Calzada will present his credentials to Colombian President Belisario Betancur today. [Summary] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 21 Feb 84 p 7-B PA]

SCHWALB DECRIES FOREIGN PRESS, NEWS AGENCIES

PY121517 Lima Television Service in Spanish 0430 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Fernando Schwalb Lopez Aldana, chairman of the Peruvian Council of Ministers and foreign minister, has reaffirmed the foreign policy of the country and indicated that many foreign news agencies report only violent actions and pay no attention to the constructive efforts of the government.

[Begin Schwalb recording] The Foreign Ministry has been systematically supplying its embassies abroad with information that enables them to make statements to the press and news agencies aimed at correcting mistakes and helping to disseminate positive news, because unfortunately the news media, especially in the United States, seem to be interested in publishing only those negative aspects which can be found in our country as they may be in any other. I am certain that good news, such as the dedication of housing projects, is available to news agencies, but it does not seem to interest the editors who throw it away. However, if there is a criminal action or a severe accident that day, they not only publish it but exaggerate it.

Thus, the efforts of the Foreign Ministry are directed at putting an end to this situation or at least at reducing its ill effects. Our (?press) office continues to operate as usual and I sometimes meet with and talk at length to foreign correspondents.
[end recording]

GENERAL CITED ON NATIONAL, INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

PY102140 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 5 Mar 84 pp A1, A10

[Excerpts] Four Peruvian Air Force generals arrived in Santiago yesterday to attend as official guests the International Air Fair that the Chilean Air Force has organized in this capital.

General Luis Abram Cavallerino, the Peruvian Air Force chief of staff and head of the visiting delegation, indicated that relations between the Peruvian and Chilean Air Forces "have been excellent for many years. We hope that this situation will last for a long time so that we can achieve true friendship among all Latin American countries, as Simon Bolivar envisioned at the height of his time."

[Unidentified reporter] What can you tell us about the domestic situation in Peru?

[Abram] Well, as any other Latin American country, we have a few problems, but they can no doubt be overcome. Most of the foreign press reports have been exaggerated.

[Reporter] What about terrorism and guerrilla warfare, General?

[Abram] These phenomena are absolutely disastrous for any nation. We have some of it in Peru, but not to the extent the foreign press says. In fact, it is now under control.

[Reporter] What is the fate of these two phenomena in the future, in your opinion?

[Abram] I believe that they will be overcome in the very near future.

[Reporter] What is the future of the Shining Path guerrilla group?

[Abram] I believe that it is bound to be exterminated very shortly.

[Reporter] What about the reports disseminated throughout the world regarding the purchase of Mirage aircraft by the Peruvian Air Force?

[Abram] Yes, that is true. The fact is that all countries must periodically renew their military materiel. This is what we are doing right now, this is what all American countries do, and Chile too has to renew its materiel.

[Reporter] When will the first planes arrive?

[Abram] Shortly.

[Reporter] What about the amount of money involved?

[Abram] A few million dollars are involved, but sometimes the amounts involved are not as substantial as the press claims. Look here, money is spent in keeping with the means of each country. The truth is that whenever possible one does periodically refurbish the materiel. Sometimes reports of these expenses blow them out of proportion.

[Reporter] What about future purchases by your branch of the Armed Forces?

[Abram] Well, as you know, for the time being possibilities are scarce. This means that we are getting the Mirage 2000 and...well...nothing else for the time being.

[Reporter] What can you tell us about the criticisms hurled at certain countries, including Peru, which spend significant portions of their budgets on purchasing arms to the detriment of social needs?

[Abram] That is not true. As in any other country in the world, a small portion of the Peruvian budget is spent on national defense, but this does not mean that enormous amounts are being spent in this area, neglecting the social aspects of the nation. The Peruvian Government is among those most concerned with the social aspects of the nation, the well-being of the nation, and most of the budget is spent for the benefit of the population and the economic development of each and every one of the residents in the country.

[Reporter] How are relations with Ecuador?

[Abram] Our relations, not only with Ecuador but also with Chile, Argentina, and Brazil, are excellent at this point. Absolutely no problems. Everything is perfect, everything is excellent.

[Reporter] Haven't you had some problems along the northern border, in the Condor Mountain Range, and in another area?

[Abram] At this point there are no...

[Reporter] But weren't there problems more or less 1 and 1/2 months ago?

[Abram] What can I tell you? I do not know...but we have had no problems...

[Reporter] Are the previous problems overcome now?

[Abram] Absolutely overcome...absolutely overcome.

The Peruvian Air Force delegation arrived shortly after 1000 yesterday. It is made up of Lt Gen Luis Abram Cavallerino, chief of staff of the Peruvian Air Force; Lieutenant General Augusto Romero Farreccio, head of the Operations Command; Major General Cesar Olivera Fernandez, head of the Air Defense Command; Major General Felix Humberto Pereyra Castanos, president of INPAER-PERU [Aeronautics Industry Public Enterprise]; and Major Pedro Suarez Galecio, an aide to Gen Abram.

PARTY LEADERS ON ELECTIONS, PROSCRIPTIONS

PY101113 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Colorado Party leader Luis Bernardo Pozzolo, a member of the party's National Executive Committee, has told Carve that the National [Blanco] Party has changed its strategy since the arrival of an emissary from Barcelona, and that this suggests that the Blanco Party and the government may have reached an agreement.

[Begin recording] [Pozzolo] But what has happened a few days, a few hours I would say, after they made so many statements? After reiterating for the umpteenth time that they would not (?participate in the elections) if a single person or party remained proscribed, we see that after a Blanco leader returns from Spain a radical change takes place. There is at least one glaring contradiction here, because the Blanco Party is beginning its mobilization for the 25 November elections now. What has changed? Perhaps the changes that occurred are positive for our country, but we are not aware of them. Colorado Party delegates have talked only once, and superficially, with Armed Forces representatives. However, Blanco Party leaders have held several meetings with the Armed Forces, while other Blanco leaders have traveled to and from Spain. Have the Blanco Party and the Armed Forces reached an agreement, an understanding, or a coincidence which has now allowed the Blanco Party to say "let's participate in the elections," while just a few hours ago it was talking about delaying or cancelling the elections?

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Pozzolo, I want to ask you a question about an issue that must be very clear for the people, because this is the time for clear definitions. What is the Colorado Party position toward the proscriptions? Will the Colorado Party participate in the elections if parties or persons remain proscribed?

[Pozzolo] The main objective of the Colorado Party is to participate in the elections; that is, if we said that we will not participate or that the elections should be delayed, we would be causing a terrible frustration for the people of our country, who expect that the ballot boxes will open an institutional way out for our nation on 27 November. From this viewpoint, we are willing to analyze the basis of an agreement and the kind of concessions that will have to be made. If such concessions do not involve disregard for essential principles, an attitude that would render our participation absolutely impossible, we would be willing to participate in the elections. But, obviously, this will be stated in due time by the party convention, which on 9 April 1983 issued a document entitled "The Basis for Dialogue" outlining the position of the Colorado Party in the talks with the government. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Dr Gonzalo Aguirre has told Carve that the Blanco Party has not changed its strategy and that it has never talked about abstaining from the elections. The Blanco Party Executive Board member said that Pozzolo's comments are not true.

[Begin Aguirre recording] Mr Pozzolo has said that Blanco Party leaders have talked about delaying the elections, about abstaining, and about other similar actions, giving rise to the belief that the Blanco Party will abstain. Although I admit that some isolated leaders have made such statements, which in my opinion are wrong, I want to stress that this has never been the official position of the Blanco Party.

On 28 January, when we met with delegates from rural areas, the National Party stated that it was beginning a mobilization for the registration of voters, that it would participate in the elections, and that it would strive for the lifting of the prescriptions on parties and persons. Our mobilization has not been tied to any condition, something that would have been unacceptable anyway. Therefore, the statement that the return of Blanco Party leader Dr (Vaz) has prompted the party to launch its campaign implies nothing new. The importance of this event is that Mr Ferreira Aldunate has confirmed from Spain the policy that the party has adopted. The party Executive Board, which in addition to the party convention is the only authority that can speak for the party on this issue, has at no time spoken about abstaining from or delaying the elections. [end recording]

MAYOR PUNISHES MUNICIPAL WORKERS FOR STRIKE

PY102235 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2022 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] Montevideo, 10 Mar (EFE) -- The mayor of the capital of Uruguay has decided to punish municipal workers who did not come to work during the general strike stated by the illegal "Interunion Workers Plenum" (PIT). The PIT called the strike on 18 January as a show of strength to support the work salary, amnesty, and union freedom demands of the public workers. The mayor of Montevideo punished those who joined the strike by suspending them from work and pay for 7 days and noting the fact in their personnel records.

Meanwhile, labor union leaders said that the strike was successful and that in Montevideo, where more than half of the entire population of Uruguay lives, activities almost ground to a halt.

MILITARY JUDGE: 758 'EXTREMISTS' STILL IN PRISON

PY091905 Paris AFP in Spanish 1433 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Montevideo, 9 Mar (AFP) -- Colonel Federico Silva Ledesma, president of the Supreme Military Court, has disclosed that 758 extremists or Tupamaro guerrilla fighters, of whom 99 are women, are still being held in Uruguayan prisons. Col Silva added that since 1967 military and civilian courts have tried 4,933 guerrilla fighters, of whom 3,508 have been released, in addition to those who have been acquitted, those that escaped, and those cases in which the statute of limitations expired. Among those still serving sentences is Raul Sendic, the ideologist, founder, and top leader of the Tupamaros.

POLICE COMMUNIQUE ON INCIDENTS DURING CARNIVAL

PY102130 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 10 Mar 84

["Text" of police communique published in Montevideo on 10 March]

[Text] The Montevideo chief of police makes it known to the public that it has been noticed for some time that groups of people have been organized which, taking advantage of any public rally, celebration, sports event, and even the Carnival, provoke violence and disorder by shouting insulting political slogans. Last night during the Carnival parade these groups were again noticed, particularly in front of the television cameras filming the parade. After constant provocations and disorders, other groups, who were there to enjoy Carnival reacted because their legitimate rights were being frustrated.

These serious clashes and disorders led to the intervention of police personnel, who were safeguarding the normal development of the show. As a result of the incidents, 26 policemen were injured by stones, bottles, and other hard objects that were thrown at them, and 51 people, whose responsibility for the disorders is under study, were detained. At the same time, damage was caused to private property, and to the benches which the mayor's office had put at the disposal of the public without charge, as well as to police cars. Municipal personnel who were on duty to guard municipal property were also injured. A judge of the criminal court was called upon and personally visited the scene to verify the damage and take general measures to restore order and to establish the causes and the degrees of guilt.

WOMEN ISSUE DECLARATION DEMANDING PARTICIPATION

PY081805 Paris AFP in Spanish 1511 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Montevideo, 8 Mar (AFP) -- Uruguayan women today demanded full and equal participation in the country's economic, social, political, and cultural activities and, at the same time, rejected any kind of protection intended to curb the exercise of their freedoms. In a declaration made public to mark International Women's Day, the commission, which has issued a call to participate in a silent march forbidden by the authorities, noted that Uruguayan women represent more than 50 percent of the country's population.

The declaration added that 60 percent of the thousands of unemployed are women, who are watching the decay of the rules of peaceful coexistence and the deterioration of the educational system, health services, housing, social security, and productive structures that generate employment -- a decay for which our children and nation are paying a high price.

According to the declaration, the Uruguayan women are not going to stand by passively in the face of this situation, but will rather demand power so that they can play their role in achieving a free, democratic, just society that respects human rights and does not discriminate. The declaration concludes that free elections without restrictions on parties or persons are necessary.

GOVERNMENT TEMPORARILY BANS ULTIMAS NOTICIAS

PY081435 Montevideo Radio El Espectador in Spanish 1415 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Relay from mobile station No 3 at the Montevideo Police Headquarters]

[Excerpt] Just a few minutes ago we were told by our colleagues at the afternoon daily ULTIMAS NOTICIAS that the paper has been banned for three issues because of an article it published yesterday. The preamble of the resolution closing down the newspaper states that even though the contents of the article in question were partially true, it had connotations contrary to regulations in effect. Thus, the next three issues of ULTIMAS NOTICIAS will not be forthcoming.

IMPOSITION OF BEEF RATIONING EXPECTED IN JULY

PY101920 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Excerpt] It is practically certain that beef rationing will be imposed in Uruguay beginning in July. This was reported to Radio El Espectador Network today at noon by (Carlos Pereda), adviser to the Rural Association in questions of beef marketing. According to recent official reports, there has been a reduction in the amount of livestock.

YUGOSLAV OFFICIAL ON MEETING WITH LUSINCHI

PA110447 Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 4 Mar 84 pp 1,16

[Text] After meeting with Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi at Miraflores Palace, Veljko Milatovic, head of a Yugoslav communist delegation, said that he is returning to his country with a clear and optimistic view of the current situation of the Latin American nations. The political leader explained that his talk with the Venezuelan president was quite fruitful in view of the diverse topics discussed. He stressed that the efforts of the Contadora Group countries to secure peace in Central America constitute a very positive task deserving full support.

He said that his contacts with President Lusinchi also served to discuss in depth the topics of trade and the existing cooperation between Yugoslavia and Venezuela and to obtain a broader perspective on Latin American problems, "which interest us very much in view of our nonaligned position." Finally, the communist leader said that he is taking back with him a good impression of how President Lusinchi has begun his term. He said that the meeting had been very cordial.

HOME OF FORMER MINISTER ZAMBRANO MACHINE-GUNNED

PA110034 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2337 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] Caracas, 10 Mar (EFE) -- Police sources today reported that three persons were injured, one seriously, when the residence of former Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco was machine-gunned last night. The reports indicate that the home of the former foreign minister, in one of the best residential sections of the capital, was machine-gunned in the early morning hours from a moving vehicle that could not be described.

Three injured persons, believed to be former minister's guards, were taken immediately to a clinic in the area, where one is in serious condition with a bullet wound in the mouth. Units of the Directorate of Intelligence and Prevention Services, DISIP (the political police) as well as members of the Judicial Technical Police are investigating the incident.

MIR POSITION ON GOVERNMENT ECONOMIC MEASURES

PA120324 Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 7 Mar 84 p D-5

[Paid advertisement by the Political Commission of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left, MIR -- date and place not given]

[Excerpts] 1. Prompt repayment of the foreign debt will hamper economic recovery. The purpose of the exchange measures is to facilitate the repayment of those foreign debts. This will harm the availability of funds for productive investment. The nation's obligations must be repaid, but we must not succumb to unacceptable pressure from international banks, which share the responsibility for the country's difficult financial situation due to the facility with which they recently granted loans.

2. The gasoline price increase is an "inflationary rocket." This price hike will not decrease gasoline consumption, as the experience of the last 2 years has demonstrated, and therefore will not save energy.

3. The transportation subsidy is a sham. The only compensation in the "package," the transportation subsidy, is insufficient because it is too low and will not even cover the fuel price increase. In addition to bus transportation, the cost of other services (gas, electricity, and others) will also increase. All this, together with the higher cost of imports caused by the devaluation, will increase prices by more than 25 percent.

4. The freezing of wages in fact decreases the real income of the workers. The government has not mentioned the possibility of wage increases to compensate for the increase in the cost of living. Therefore, we assume that this will be done through collective bargaining. This means that more than 50 percent of the working class, not to mention the unemployed, will be left completely unprotected, and their real income will decrease by 25 percent.

5. Full employment: An unkept promise. The offer to establish enterprises to create new jobs will not be implemented. More than 1 million Venezuelan citizens are now either unemployed or underemployed.

6. The beneficiaries of the measures are the same as always. The principal beneficiary is the financial system, which allegedly has a debt of \$6 billion that it will pay off at an exchange rate of 4.30 bolivares to the dollar. Shamelessly, it threatened not to decrease the interest rates unless the preferential dollar exchange rate was assured... and it got what it wanted. The part about the "collective sacrifice" that the businessmen should make will be easily avoided through bookkeeping entries to cancel the measures regarding the redistribution of dividends and the limiting of bonuses to directors.

An Electoral Swindle

The Pact for a Social Democracy, which then-candidate Jaime Lusinchi understood as "a collective commitment to increase production and to preserve the real value of personal income at a level that will meet the needs of the family and increase savings to achieve self-sustained growth" will become an electoral swindle. The common Venezuelan citizen, who thought that one could live better with AD [Democratic Action], is watching his dream turn into a nightmare.

The MIR announces that it will carry out a mobilization plan to confront with determination the unpopular economic decisions. We will submit this plan immediately to the opposition parties, the CTV [Confederation of Workers of Venezuela]; and all the other labor organizations in the country to demand that the government make the necessary changes to establish the just wages that the working class deserves.

MIR National Political Commission

BRIEFS

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO MINISTER VISITS -- Venezuelan Foreign Minister Isidro Morales Paul met with Basil Ince, Trinidad and Tobago's foreign minister, at Casa Amarilla [Foreign Ministry]. They spoke at length about matters of interest to both countries. Basil Ince is on an official visit to Caracas and will return to Trinidad tomorrow. [Summary] [Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 12 Mar 84 PA]

ASSEMBLY ELECTS CARLOS OZORES VICE PRESIDENT

PA121838 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Excerpts] The National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives today elected Dr Carlos Ozores the new vice president of the Republic, replacing Dr Jorge Illueca, who is currently president following Ricardo de la Espriella's unexpected resignation. Of the 505 representatives, 435 voted in favor of Ozores and 3 for Diogenes Arosemena, who was nominated by the Honorable Jose D'Anuncio Rossania of Colon Province. Carlos Calzadilla, the other strong candidate, who had abundant support among the representatives, stepped down as a candidate before the nominating process began.

After the victory, an assembly commission went to the Palace of the Herons to call on new Vice President Dr Ozores. Different musical groups enlivened the area in front of the Legislative Palace. Before arriving there, Ozores said:

[Begin Ozores recording] I am very pleased, and I hope to be equal to the confidence shown in me. [end recording]

ILLUECA ON NEW VICE PRESIDENT, ELECTIONS

PA122022 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1845 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Speech by President Jorge Illueca to the National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives at the Justo Arosemena Legislative Palace in Panama City -- live]

[Excerpts] Mr President, honorable representatives, ministers, fellow citizens:

As chief executive, I have come to this honorable National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives to express cordial greetings, with affection and respect for each of you. It has been very satisfying for me to follow this morning's democratic debates in this assembly, to see how the constitutional and legal principles were fulfilled, as well as to rejoice over your wise choice in electing Carlos Ozores Typaldos vice president of the Republic, because his qualities as a statesman are well known.

This is a good occasion to publicly reaffirm that harmony exists among all the branches of government and the National Defense Forces. We are determined, although government actions might be interpreted otherwise, to show the country that Panama has an image of order and harmony, that public freedoms are respected, and that human rights are not merely established in the letter of the law but are expressed in the daily coexistence of men, women, children, and senior citizens, who live in our country in peace.

I want to point this out because we are coming close to the day when this country's citizens will go to the polls. All citizens can rest assured that we have the firm and serious intention of holding elections in May and June, and that those elections will be honest and clean. The rules of the game will be respected, and the one who wins the votes will be elected. But at the same time, I want to tell you that within this electoral process the men and women who hold public office are committed to maintaining order and to ensuring that our economy will not be paralyzed, that progress will continue, and that both nationals and foreigners will enjoy all guarantees on our territory, not only from the legal viewpoint but the psychological guarantees of tranquillity in their homes and society.

COLUMNIST REJECTS IDEA OF MILITARY COUP

PA121750 Panama City YA in Spanish 12 Mar 84 p 14

["Public Gathering" column by Donatilo Ballesteros: "Coup D'Etat"]

[Excerpts] The topic of a possible coup d'etat is frequently raised at public gatherings in the city and in the country's interior. The 1968 coup seems to have produced a trauma in many Panamanians, who do not rule out a repetition if the political interests of the high-ranking military leaders are in any danger. The topic of a second step backward on the path to democracy has been complicated, however, by the fact of radical changes within the Armed Forces.

We cannot deny that the old National Guard was excessively politicized, and that individuals emerged from its ranks to fill strictly civilian positions for which they lacked even the most minimal qualifications. Imposition, arrogance, and a harmful fanaticism made such a situation possible. The professionalization of the National Guard (now the National Defense Forces), however, has brought educated individuals to leadership positions, individuals who respect the Constitution and the law, who are aware of their responsibility as citizens, who undeniably love their fatherland, and who will prevent any military coup. They know that this is true. They cannot bear the responsibility for a national bloodbath because of the greed or mistaken political stands of their superiors, who, by the way, as members of the military institution, should not have political leanings.

That is why I continue to believe in the neutrality of the Panamanian military sector, in which I have many friends; I know that they believe that we must march toward democracy, with respect for the rights of all. They have made advances that they deserve to maintain. The people are demanding that their rights be respected, and the military and the country's civilians are in agreement on this point.

FEP DEMANDS EXPLANATION IN DEATH OF 2 YOUTHS

PA110425 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 10 Mar 84 p 6 D

[Text] Jose Didimo Escobar, secretary general of the Federation of Panamanian Students, FEP, in a letter to President Jorge Illueca has demanded an official explanation for the deaths of two Panamanian youths on Wednesday, 7 March. The youths were torn to pieces by an explosive shell abandoned at the helicopter and tank firing range maintained in Cocoli by the U.S. Southern Command. We demand -- the note says -- an official explanation of the death of Aldo Granucci and Omar Assin, two youths who were blown up by a mine [minas] set by the "Yankee" Army stationed in the Canal area "with the guilty silence of the Panamanian authorities."

The letter, with copies addressed to General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander of the National Defense Forces; Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega; and the national and international media, also asks the president to clarify to the Panamanian people and youth whether we are in "a state of war" and if so against whom. The letter further asks for the Panamanian people's safety.

Escobar states in the name of the FEP that this student organization and the Panamanian people are shocked and outraged at the death of two Panamanian youths who had every right to live, and asks Dr Illueca how much longer the Panamanian people must suffer the humiliation and disrespect of "Yankee" arrogance in our territory.

COSTA RICASECURITY MINISTER WANTS DIALOGUE WITH NICARAGUA

PA121530 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Public Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano supports the reactivation of the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan joint commission. Just as great powers like the United States and the Soviet Union keep their lines of communication open, including direct telephones for extremely urgent situations, I think that Costa Rica and Nicaragua should not close down their lines of communication. Solano said this while admitting that the Costa Rican and Nicaraguan Governments are discussing the possibility of holding a high-level meeting as soon as possible, as we reported earlier. The meeting would involve a higher level than that of the former so-called joint commission, as both countries would be represented by their most qualified representatives, such as their foreign relations, presidency, and security ministers.

Solano Calderon said that this meeting could be held in either of the two countries on an as yet unspecified date. He added, however, I have always said that I am willing to go wherever necessary and to make any effort necessary to help maintain peace, tranquility, and Costa Rica's neutrality. Solano Calderon does not agree with the decision to stop the joint commission's periodic meetings. He said that permanent dialogue is necessary to smooth over problems that may present themselves, and he hinted that it might be advisable to give the commission higher status and greater decisionmaking authority.

Concern has been expressed in Nicaragua, as Radio Reloj noted last week, over reports that the Costa Rican Government is planning to modernize its arsenal and to acquire modern defensive weapons with which to deter Nicaraguan attacks. A case in point is the attack on a group of rural guards in Conventillos recently, and there have been other incidents that threaten our sovereignty. Nicaragua's authorities have expressed concern -- and this was reiterated by one of their highest spokesmen, Sergio Ramirez Mercado, last Friday when he stopped at the Juan Santamaria Airport -- over statements that this decision by Monge's government was prompted by the Sandinists. Ramirez Mercado stressed, as we have reported, that Costa Rica has a right to arm, but indicated a possible Sandinist invasion should not be used as a pretext, because there will not be one.

The Costa Rican security minister affirmed that efforts are being made to bring about a meeting between himself and Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Sandinist junta, to discuss important and delicate issues, including territorial violations, kidnappings, threats, and other problems that have recently emerged. I maintain, Solano Calderon said, that we must increase our struggle for peace each day and that instead of resorting to threats of war we should resort to dialogue. Just as I once went to El Salvador to seek the release of a Costa Rican and thus maintain the peace, I would now go anywhere if this Costa Rican-Nicaraguan meeting were to be agreed upon, he concluded.

CIVIL GUARD REPORTEDLY CAPTURES ARDE MEMBERS

PA130410 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2036 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] San Jose, 12 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- The northern command of the Costa Rican Civil Guard has uncovered an anti-Sandinist guerrilla camp, arms, and war materiel in the zone of Las Pampas, 1 km from the Nicaraguan border.

According to a statement to newsmen by Major Juan Rafael Guevara, second in command of the Civil Guard, guerrillas identified as members of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) were arrested, and arms, ammunition, and military equipment were seized.

According to the officer, there were seven ARDE members, six Nicaraguans and one Honduran: Pedro Rafael Parrales (28), Julio Munoz (17), Francisco Parrales (22), Jose Miguel Parrales (22), Naval Espinosa (19), Francisco Villareal (30), and Manuel Vanegas (24, Honduran). The rebels were led by "Indio Bravo," who was not in the camp when the members were captured by the Civil Guardsmen.

The Costa Rican Civil Guard seized AK-47 machine guns, FAL rifles, one M-79 grenade launcher, one Browning .30-cal machine gun, one M-19 60-mm mortar, mines, fragmentation grenades, ammunition, and a high frequency radio kit. The Civil Guard patrol encountered no resistance from the Nicaraguan rebels, who were interrogated at the northern command and who were subsequently taken to the capital in the custody of the Intelligence and Security Directorate. This group was apparently passing through Costa Rica to enter Nicaragua this week to attack the town of Cardenas in Rivas Department, a region close to this country's border.

Military sources indicated that after the 23 February attack on the Sandinist People's Army (EPS) in Conventillos, constant patrolling of the border between the two countries from the site of the incidents to Rio Colon was ordered. Meanwhile, it has been unofficially learned that between the time of the Conventillos attack and the capture of the ARDE command there were no incidents along the border.

Costa Rican labor leaders, however, who met last weekend in Ciudad Quesada, asked the authorities to halt the "unusual flow of military materiel" that is supposedly destined for the anti-Sandinist forces in Boca Tapada de San Carlos near the border. Although an official report is expected from the Intelligence and Security Directorate on the subject tomorrow, some observers believe that the captured rebels will be released to immigration officials to be expelled from the country.

COMMUNIST PARTY SAYS U.S. PLANNING INVASION

PA121606 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] The crisis in our country and throughout Central America was assessed at the Popular Vanguard Party congress on Saturday and Sunday. Party Secretary General Manuel Mora Valverde said to 2,000 followers at the Plaza Theater that the United States has two plans: either to invade Costa Rica, from which to attack Nicaragua; or to stage a coup in order to establish a puppet government that will turn Costa Rica over to the United States. The communist leader charged that these plans in fact exist.

According to the communists, our country is about to be invaded by the United States, since it is in a strategic position. The communists add that there are many mercenaries in Costa Rica who have been sent in by the CIA and who are prepared to act at any time. All that is required now is for the government to ask for help, so that a peace force, which would be an army at the service of the Pentagon, can be sent. If the United States fails in this plan, it will then turn to a coup to establish a puppet government to hand over our sovereignty. The communist congress agreed to warn the United States that it has only two alternatives: to negotiate or to fight.

EL SALVADORDUARTE HITS RIVALS, PROMISES ECONOMIC RECOVERY

PA121634 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Speech by Jose Napoleon Duarte, presidential candidate of the Salvadoran Christian Democratic Party, PDC, during a PDC "radio rally"; place not given -- live or recorded]

[Excerpts] Good evening, Salvadoran people. In this rally, which we are holding on the radio so that we can address all of the Salvadoran people, I particularly want to address those who have not had the opportunity to hear my views on television, especially the peasants who listen to our program early in the morning, the workers, and all sectors of the people, because I have a feeling that in our effort to solve the country's fundamental problems, the people feel that the Christian Democrats, as a result of their efforts and their history of struggle for the last 23 years, have shown that they are with the people, that they are with the poor. That is why the government that will take office on 1 June, because of your vote on 25 March [applause] will be a government of the poor and the humble, a government of recovery, of confidence, of security, and of stability for all Salvadorans. [applause]

On 25 March, you will have to decide how to vote. By voting you will take part in deciding the country's destiny. You have three alternatives at this time. You know the history of the PCN [National Conciliation Party]. All of the PCN's promises have been false. It has never kept them. For the last 20 years, everything has been a deception and a farce, and now they tell you that nothing has happened here, that we must return to the past and to governments that made promises that they did not keep. Dear friends, I am sure that no one in our country can ignore the 40,000 dead, the victims of so many assassinations and violence. [applause]

The other alternative is even worse and more dangerous. That is the alternative presented by ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance] ARENA says that total war must be waged. ARENA says that the people must be killed. For ARENA, the only solution is that they be the only ones left, and that is why they threaten everyone. They threaten the communists, the Christian Democrats, and the members of all parties, including those of the PCN. Dear friends, their solution is to exterminate all Salvadorans. [applause] This method was the foundation of the Nazi and other fascist systems. That is why they have selected none other than Mr D'Aubuisson as their standard-bearer. The Salvadorans are aware that men who think this way and who are willing to engage in assassination, who see communists everywhere -- in their soup, under their beds and in their cupboards -- who see communists everywhere and who kill people cannot be an alternative for the country. [applause]

Dear friends, dear Salvadorans who are listening to me via this program, via this radio rally, I want to tell you that the PDC offers a solution. That solution is the social pact, which means that all Salvadorans need each other, that together they can find a solution for the country. The social pact means that we will face the unemployment problem. All of the candidates say that they can face the unemployment problem, but none of them say where they are going to get the money to deal with the production and employment problem. I have friends in the world. There are people who have said that they are willing to help me achieve solutions with international credit. [applause]

We need to reactivate the economy and for this we need specific sources of financing. We need to solve the country's economic problems by reactivating not only the powerful sectors, which have received all of the aid so far, but those sectors that have never received aid as well. We need to make the agrarian reform work, so that the peasants who have a little plot of land but who are refused financial aid will be able to make their land produce. [applause]

You have to decide the country's destiny. Don't throw your vote away. Vote for the Christian Democrats on 25 March. Vote for the winner. I don't think that there's any doubt among Salvadorans that I'm going to win the elections and that I will be the next Salvadoran president.

MILITARY ACTIVITY IN VARIOUS PARTS OF COUNTRY

COPREFA on Santiago de Maria

PA122348 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Communique issued by the Salvadoran Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA, in San Salvador; date not given]

[Text] Colonel Julio Cesar Yanez Lopez, commander of the Usulután peace forces, today categorically denied that a curfew had been decreed in Santiago de Maria after forward units confronted terrorists last Friday evening in the countryside between Santiago de Maria and Alegria. At no time was a curfew considered; the situation did not merit such a measure, Col Yanez said.

Rifles, not heavy artillery, were used during the clash, which stretched into the early morning hours, because such actions take longer at night. However, the troops were able to resist the attack without calling for reinforcements, as reports that exaggerate the terrorist action have erroneously said. There was no need for Air Force support during the clash. Helicopters were only sent in on reconnaissance flights after the action, Yanez Lopez said. He added that the actions occurred northwest of Santigao de Maria between that village and neighboring Alegria and not surrounding Santiago de Maria and its environs, as has been reported. The communications and transportation services were not affected either; as of Saturday, they were functioning regularly, he noted.

Col Yanez added that the media's exaggerated versions of the action only confuse the people. He said that it is understandable that the residents were alarmed, because they do not want to lose the tranquillity that they have long enjoyed due to the support of the Armed Forces. Therefore, he asked Usulután residents to remain calm and confident and not to allow these publicity-seeking terrorist actions to impress or frighten them because the peace forces will always protect the welfare of Usulután.

Meanwhile, seven peasant youths arrived at the 3d Infantry Brigade in the city of San Miguel to register for military service. The seven youths said: We have a firm desire to serve our country and to join the Salvadoran Army before we become victims of the terrorist kidnappings, because the rebels would force us to take up arms against the people.

In other reports, a terrorist from (San Antonio Moandred) surrendered at the National Police checkpoint on the highway to Yamabal, in Morazan Department. He turned over an AR-15 rifle, five magazines, and their corresponding ammunition.

Another terrorist surrendered to the peace force command. He said that his alias was Julian and that he worked in logistics in the subversive ranks. He surrendered his military gear, including an FAL rifle, two magazines, and ammunition. The two terrorists said that they were members of the People's Revolutionary Army.

Rebels Attack Eastern Region

PA122229 Paris AFP in Spanish 2046 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] San Salvador, 12 Mar (AFP) -- Regional authorities have confirmed that the eastern sector of El Salvador was continuing without electricity today, due to guerrilla sabotage over the weekend. San Miguel, the region's principal city, has been without electricity for 48 hours; the state-owned CEL [Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission], however, promised to repair the damage on Monday.

Guerrilla groups on Saturday blew up three electric towers in Mercedes Umana, some 70 km east of the capital. The suspension of electricity is also affecting other important towns in Usulután and Cabanas Departments.

Leftist rebels attacked Santiago María, Usulután Department, one of the main coffee centers in the country, over the weekend. According to various sources, this is the first time that the rebels have reached the city's downtown area.

Yesterday, Sunday, guerrilla groups also attacked a small military base near the Chorrera El Guayabo hydroelectric dam, some 80 km east of San Salvador, killing two soldiers and wounding several others. The Army, meanwhile, aided by the Air Force, today increased its operations near the Cerrón Grande and El Guayabo hydroelectric dams because local residents reported that yesterday some 800 guerrilla members "visited" Teputepeque, a municipality in Cabanas Department that currently has no local authorities.

Venceremos Reports Power Outage

PA130129 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] All of eastern El Salvador was left without power on Monday as a result of the downing of three electric power pylons by FMLN squads in Mercedes Umana on Saturday. Reports say that the political rally staged by the Christian Democratic Party in eastern El Salvador ran into problems due to the lack of electricity in the entire area of eastern El Salvador, which was left without power until noon on Monday.

VENCEREMOS ALLEGES U.S. 'ESPIONAGE FLIGHTS'

PA130237 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Attention, attention, to the following information from Radio Venceremos, official spokesman of the FMLN. Intelligence reports have confirmed the increase in reconnaissance flights over Salvadoran territory originating from the U.S. Southern Command in Panama. The reports indicate that last week alone 137 espionage flights were carried out over our territory, especially over the eastern sector of the country.

The information from our intelligence services reveals that the U.S. official in charge of coordinating these reconnaissance flights between Ilopango, Honduras, and the U.S. Southern Command in Panama is a member of the 470th U.S. Army intelligence unit. The information adds that the Salvadoran Army has received all information collected by these reconnaissance flights. They even received all aerial photography collected by U.S. planes last year. The information is being supplied to the Salvadoran Army as support for military plans prepared by U.S. soldiers to guarantee that the 25 March elections take place.

In addition, the high-ranking officers of the U.S. Southern Command plan to form new military units in El Salvador. There will be two kinds of military units: some composed exclusively of U.S. soldiers, and others composed of Salvadoran soldiers under the command of U.S. officers. It is known that the U.S. advisers want to establish these units in permanent bases. These units will be deployed from these bases to carry out offensive activities and to be in constant action. Another part of the information reveals that a fleet of U.S. ships will be stationed in the Gulf of Fonseca. These ships will have war equipment capable of shooting down fighter aircraft and shelling Salvadoran territory.

FMLN: U.S., HONDURAS PLAN MORAZAN OPERATION

PA130205 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Attention, attention. Here is a military report received by Radio Venceremos from the Francisco Sanchez Northeastern Front in Morazan Department. Attention.

The Salvadoran dictatorship is preparing a large-scale operation directly coordinated with the U.S. and Honduran Armies. We repeat: The Salvadoran dictatorship is preparing a large-scale operation directly coordinated with the U.S. and Honduran Armies. The enemy operation will take place in northeastern El Salvador, particularly in Morazan Department. The Honduran Army has reinforced the border area with troops and has been patrolling the area in preparation for the operation.

U.S. troops will also be deployed along the Honduran-Salvadoran border, and the U.S. aircraft carrier "America" will be sent to Central American waters this week. Most of the Salvadoran dictatorship's Army, Honduran Army troops, and U.S. Army troops and war supplies will participate in this operation.

The Reagan administration has justified this action with its alleged support of the 25 March elections. This is the final decision of U.S. imperialism to begin a direct intervention in El Salvador through increased troop strength. Our forces have already planned defense operations and are preparing themselves to confront this enemy operation. We are ready to face Yankee intervention and to overcome it.

FMLN Issues Communique

PA130143 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Communique released by the FMLN General Command in El Salvador on 12 March]

[Text] In view of the recent deployment of U.S. naval and infantry troops to Central American territorial waters and to the Honduras-El Salvador border, the FMLN informs the people of El Salvador, the people of the United States, and the other peoples of the world that:

1. Because the FMLN controls most of the Salvadoran territory bordering Honduras, the deployment of U.S. troops to the Honduras-El Salvador border is a direct act of aggression against our people and a provocation of our military forces.
2. The FMLN has made all political efforts to attempt to stop intervention and to prevent the ill-fated consequences of such for the peoples of Central America and the United States, who will also suffer as a result of U.S. President Ronald Reagan's adventuristic policy.
3. The FMLN, in view of such an act of aggression, warns that it will act in the interests of the people and in defense of national sovereignty, and as of now rejects the absurd claim of the non-existence of specific borders as a justification for invasion of our land and attacks on our forces.
4. The FMLN warns that if the presence of U.S. troops near the border is used to cause intimidation, we will respond by escalating the war until victory is achieved, even though to achieve this we will have to fight and defeat the invading U.S. troops and their Honduran Army puppets or those of any other nationality that plans to join the attacks.
5. The FMLN asks all its fighters to prepare to fight the invading troops and alerts the Salvadoran people, the peoples of Central America and the United States, and the international community about the military confrontation that the U.S. Administration is unleashing in El Salvador and Central America.
6. At this decisive moment for our war of liberation, the FMLN calls on all workers, students, teachers, honest soldiers, commissioned and non-commissioned officers, professionals, small and medium businessmen, the church, and all Salvadoran people to repudiate this aggressive act, remain alert to all the information that we will provide, and close ranks to fight the invaders in defense of dignity and national sovereignty.

United to fight until final victory! Revolution or death, we will win!

[Signed] FMLN General Command: Commander Joaquin Villalobos, Commander Leonel Gonzalez, Commander Shafic Jorge Handal, Commander Roberto Roca, Commander Ferman Cienfuegos

FDR'S UNGO INTERVIEWED ON ELECTIONS, CANDIDATES

PA122109 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 12 Mar 84

["Part one" of an interview granted by FDR President Dr Guillermo Manuel Ungo to an unidentified Radio Venceremos reporter; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] How does the U.S.-planned electoral farce currently stand in terms of international acceptance and credibility?

[Ungo] The lack of credibility of these so-called elections has been significant. We are finding clear indications of this in comments of political leaders in both Latin America and Europe, who have said that not only are these elections not a solution to the conflict, they can actually become an instrument for further intervention [words indistinct] massive, direct intervention by the U.S. Government.

Even the OAS did not dare support those elections through a resolution -- I mean for the 1982 elections [as heard]. [Words indistinct] OAS will send observers to the 25 March elections. [Words indistinct] such a procedure can result from a request by any OAS member.

At the 1982 OAS General Assembly in Santa Lucia, a resolution was passed in support of the March 1982 elections. In contrast, at the recent OAS General Assembly in Washington there was no apparent willingness to issue a statement on the 1984 elections. In addition, resolutions recently passed by the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva have clearly stressed the need to seek [words indistinct], rejecting the idea that the 25 March elections will lead to peace.

In our talks with several Latin American leaders, we have had the opportunity to learn their negative views of the upcoming elections. Further evidence of this is the fact that most democratic and progressive governments in Latin America and Europe are not sending any official observers.

[Reporter] Dr Ungo, there has been some speculation as to the possibility that an electoral victory by Duarte might make it easier to find a resolution to the war and crisis affecting El Salvador. What do you think?

[Ungo] We think that it is a false premise that, in electoral terms, we must accept Duarte as a lesser evil. This is a U.S. electoral plan that is contrary to the interests of the Salvadoran people. This is an electoral plan for war, not for peace. This is the Reagan administration's best cover for its intervention. The Reagan administration needs the far right sectors to continue the war, because the extreme rightists are the best friends of war and the worst enemies of peace, dialogue, and negotiations.

At the same time, however, the U.S. Government, to solve its domestic problems, especially with the U.S. people and Congress, must disguise those electoral results with some promises that have a reformist flavor. In this light, Duarte is the candidate who must be supported [words indistinct] U.S. military intervention.

In addition, Duarte is in an extremely weak position, much weaker than his position in 1982. Duarte has to reach an understanding with the extreme right, because he doesn't have a majority in the Legislative Assembly. The Christian Democratic Party, which he represents, reached that understanding with the PAISA [Salvadoran Authentic Institutional Party] in January of this year. PAISA is the party that is closest to ARENA [National Republican Alliance].

Furthermore, we don't have to be ladies-in-waiting to the true power brokers: the Reagan administration and the current Army High Command, which are the main proponents of war and intervention. So, it doesn't matter to us who is the lesser evil of the candidates, because all of the candidates serve an imperialist plan, an oligarchic plan that has provided Salvadoran henchmen with the best conditions for increasing and extending the intervention, the war, the [words indistinct] if necessary, invasion and massive direct intervention with U.S. troops.

For this reason, we tell our people very clearly that there is no true alternative here. The situation is so negative that not one of the current candidates identifies with the people's interests and with our stance on this farce.

GUATEMALASOLDIER DIES IN REBEL AMBUSH IN QUICHE

PA122027 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 11 Mar 84 p 3

[Text] One soldier died when guerrillas detonated a Claymore-type mine as a military patrol was passing through Xalbal in Quiche Department. Corporal Juan Alberto Ramos was wounded in the ambush. A helicopter took Ramos, who was in serious condition, to Santa Cruz del Quiche's National Hospital, where he later died.

A military communique issued yesterday afternoon reports that the guerrillas fled with several wounded men after their attack was repelled. They left traces of blood. It has also been reported that troops are searching the area to find the people responsible for the ambush.

HONDURASNICARAGUAN TROOPS ATTACK TOWNS ON BORDEREl Triunfo Reported Burning

PA121805 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Live relay from Choluteca by Juan Ramon Aguilera Z.]

[Excerpt] At 0700 on 10 March, Sandinist troops, perhaps because of fear, invasion delirium, or because they definitely want a war with us, initiated a full-fledged attack on the humble inhabitants of the Siete de Mayo neighborhood of Choluteca. They fired incendiary and heavy artillery shells at our border patrols. The firing began at 0700 and ended at 1100. Our soldiers, following orders, did not respond to the attack.

Many people are fleeing from El Triunfo. The place is still on fire, there are pigs and cattle with gunshot wounds, and the farms are burning.

Inhabitants Flee 5 Towns

PA122312 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2112 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 12 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Five Honduran townships on the Nicaraguan border have been abandoned by their inhabitants, who fear a Sandinist Army attack, the station Radio America reported here today. According to Radio America, the evacuated townships are Mata de Guineo, Guineo, Poza Redonda, Paredes, and Pueblo Nuevo, all of them in the eastern Department of El Paraiso.

According to the station correspondent, "the Sandinist patrols constantly harass" the inhabitants of those towns, which are located in eastern Honduras along the Nicaraguan border. The correspondent explained that "some schools of the townships of Poza Redonda and Pueblo Nuevo have been used as garrisons by the Sandinists." The station report also claimed that the Honduran Army has sent troops to the zone, but they have averted clashes with the Sandinists.

GOVERNMENT WORKERS ON STRIKE; LEADER DETAINED

PA121738 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1550 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 12 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- The Honduran Government today is facing a strike in the Secretariat of Communications, Public Works, and Transport (SECOPT), the state's most important agency. The strike, ordered by the SECOPT's union, began at 0700 (1300 GMT) today; hundreds of workers occupied SECOPT installations throughout the country. The police intervened immediately, but did not remove the strikers. They acted only to detain Jose Alfredo Flores, president of the union's national directorate.

The strikers have demanded that Secretary Carlos Handal stop abusing the union's rank and file, rehire 400 workers who were dismissed, and begin negotiations on a salary hike. Workers have described Secretary Handal as a "political cannibal," saying that he has been merciless toward the union's lowest-ranking members, who do not belong to the government's Liberal Party.

Sixto Salvador Navas, the union's sergeant at arms, told reporters that all of the workers who were dismissed "earn only a trifle because of their lack of training and thus depend upon their work as laborers with SECOPT." Navas added that he would make all the necessary contacts with the police to secure the release of the union's president.

Handal in turn has denied that he dismissed workers for political reasons, saying: "We have acted in accordance with the central government's goal of reducing public expense. We have dismissed surplus, unnecessary personnel." Some of the secretary's supporters have defended his labor policy and have accused the union's leaders of being "communists who adhere to foreign slogans."

NICARAGUAPROTEST OVER BORDER ATTACKS LODGED WITH HONDURAS

PA130128 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Mar 84

["Official protest note" sent by Acting Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco to the Honduran Government on 12 March]

[Text] On 10 March, at 0300, a patrol of 10 Honduran soldiers attacked the observation post of La Reforma, 5 km northwest of Somotillo, for 5 minutes. The same day, at 0900, a group of approximately 30 or 40 Somozist mercenaries -- acting together with members of the Honduran Army -- attacked with AK and FAL rifles the observation post of La Minita for approximately 1 hour. The observation post is 3 km northwest of Somotillo.

Likewise, yesterday, on 11 March at 2300, an undetermined number of Somozist mercenaries in Honduras near the sector of San Geronimo, acting in coordination with members of the Honduran Army, attacked with mortars and rifle fire the military installations in El Naranjo, located 4 km northwest of Somotillo.

The Nicaraguan Government presents its most formal and strongest protest over these attacks and insists once more on the Honduran Government's proven responsibility for the perpetration of these acts of provocation and aggression, which are contrary to the rules of international law.

Likewise, it demands that the Honduran Government immediately cease such actions, which are part of the aggression being experienced by our country as a product of the Honduran Government's submissiveness to the U.S. administration's plans, which seek to destroy the Sandinist people's revolution.

I reiterate assurances of my consideration.

[Signed] Victor Hugo Tinoco, Acting Foreign Minister

EDUCATION MINISTER VISITS GDR, AUSTRIA, SPAIN

PA121615 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Education Minister Carlos Tunnerman began a trip yesterday to the GDR, Austria, and Spain to offer information about the country's situation and to describe the advances that the Nicaraguan revolution has made in education.

The minister will stay in the GDR for 15 days to study this advanced country's educational system. He will visit schools and a book fair and will meet with chapters of the 19 July Sandinist Youth that have been established in Berlin, Dresden, (Heismar), Leipzig, and (Kolten).

In Vienna he will hold a conference to discuss Nicaragua's educational achievements since the triumph of the revolution.

Finally, the Nicaraguan education minister will go to Madrid, where he will meet with his Spanish counterpart to discuss the two countries' educational agreements. Nicaragua will also secure \$5 million in credit from Spain for the purchase of educational material.

STATE COUNCIL APPROVES ELECTORAL BILL ARTICLES

PA130254 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Oscar Alvarez report]

[Text] The State Council in its seventh special session discussed the procedure for counting the votes on election day. Article 103 approved by the State Council absolutely prohibits all public gatherings and meetings that interfere with the voting. It also prohibits the sale of liquor, the carrying of firearms, drunkenness at the polling places, and the solicitation of votes for any particular party. It also prohibits meetings near the polls.

Also approved were Article 104, which says that once the voting has ended the poll officials will draft a document recording the time the voting ended, the number of persons who voted, and the representatives who witnessed the elections; and Article 105, which requires that the political party representatives be present when the ballot box is opened.

Article 108 on null votes was still under discussion.

PPSC'S DELGADILLO OUTLINES PARTY'S POSITION

PA101148 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 9 Mar 84

["Direct Line" phone-in program with Cesar Delgadillo Machado, Popular Social Christian Party, PPSC, member and spokesman for the Patriotic Front of the Revolution, FPR; (Alantes del Alba) of Radio Noticias; Perez Valdivia of Radio Corporacion; Hernando Zelaya Castro of Radio Atenas in Leon City; Aldo Romero of Radio Sandino; unidentified Radio Sandino journalists; and an unidentified moderator -- live]

[Excerpts] [Moderator] How does the PPSC feel about this new phase of political struggle? What is your position? Are you going to stay with the Patriotic Front? What is your political strength? How is your party organized? Tell us everything that can explain your position to our people.

[Delgadillo] The PPSC has been strengthened in this new phase of a free Nicaragua. It has been able to organize its departmental leadership and to draft political, social, and economic programs after the many years of darkness we had to endure during the Somoquist dictatorship when we were essentially a clandestine party because it was impossible to operate legally. Besides, we would not have wanted to operate legally under such a regime. Therefore, the opportunity that the revolutionary process has given us is important. From the beginning we participated in the National Patriotic Front. Now we are in the Patriotic Front of the Revolution promoting the revolutionary process and working for the culmination of this process, for the institutionalization of the process.

[Caller Orestes Guinones] I want to ask about the record of the PPSC during the struggle against the dictatorship. What is the PPSC's current position?

[Delgadillo] In the Patriotic Front of the Revolution there are, undoubtedly, ideological differences. It is these differences that reaffirm the alliance. But there are also points of agreement, which maintain the political alliance of the front.

For example, the PPSC, disagrees with the way in which church-state relations are being managed. The PPSC has a definite political stance on this. Our views and those of the FSLN are different on how to handle these relations. Last year we published a pamphlet about this.

There are other differences -- for example, about international nonalignment policy. There are differences about some economic and social policies. We have points of view that differ from those of the FSLN. There are differences also with the Nicaraguan Socialist Party, which is Marxist-Leninist.

The three parties that remain in the Patriotic Front of the Revolution -- since the Independent Liberal Party withdrew for reasons already made public -- agree on points that promote the revolutionary process for the benefit of the majority of the Nicaraguan people.

We recognize the FSLN as the vanguard of the revolutionary process. We believe that the programs that it has promoted conform satisfactorily to our platform. We believe that the revolutionary process has been attacked, economically and militarily, by U.S. imperialism and its Central American lackeys because this is an anti-imperialist, popular, and democratic revolution that has shown imperialism that the Nicaraguan people are determined.

[(Alantes del Alba)] I would like to ask you three questions. In one of your answers to a "Direct Line" listener, you said that you disagree with the way that church-state relations are being managed. Because you are from the PPSC, I imagine that you have your views on how these relations can be improved, because I understand you are very Christian. That's my first question.

The second question is: There has been talk of an alliance in the FPR, an alliance that would imply the presence of candidates for the Assembly elections from the third parties. This morning I heard the leader of one party, whose name I cannot recall, saying that you could go alone to the elections. Are talks with the FSLN waning?

My third question is: Would you give us a thorough report on the situation at the ports, especially following the attacks carried out by Piranha-type boats. You spoke earlier this evening about attacks on Corinto and San Juan del Sur and about damages and injuries.

[Delgadillo] Regarding the state-church relations, we believe that both sides -- the Catholic hierarchy and the government -- have committed errors in these relations. We have proposed that the state must be independent of the church and therefore must not meddle in church-related matters as long as the church does not violate revolutionary government's laws. The Catholic Church must respect the revolutionary state and not become involved in political affairs because they are a Catholic hierarchy and not a political hierarchy. Both must know their limits and respect each other. The Catholic Church must offer honest, true, and sincere guidelines without meddling in the political affairs, which remain the revolutionary government's domain.

I cannot answer your third question because I am here as a politician and not as general director of the National Port Enterprise.

Your second question was about the circumstances under which the PPSC could participate in the 4 November 1984 elections. Right now we are holding trilateral talks with the FSLN and the PSN to see whether we will go to the elections united or whether each party will go independently. When we say alone, we, the PPSC, have some alternatives. One alternative would be to run only for the Constituent Assembly elections with PPSC candidates in the various regions of the country. We could also go into an alliance with other parties in a joint list. We could also present presidential and vice presidential candidates, or not present any and then support the candidates of one of the parties supporting the revolutionary process, for example, the FSLN candidates. There are many alternatives and the PPSC will choose the most suitable, positive one to best benefit the revolutionary process.

[Aldo Romero] It is important that our people know the ideological differences between the PPSC and the Nicaraguan Social Christian Party, PSC.

[Delgadillo] Your question on the differences between the PSC and the PPSC is a very objective one. The first difference is our attitude toward the revolutionary process. While the PSC sometimes claims to disagree slightly with the direction of the revolutionary process, on other occasions it is described as an opposition party and is even firmly called a rightist party. There is no doubt that the Social Christian doctrine is a very broad one with different shades and a great range of meanings. Our social, Christian party does not try to achieve a neo-capitalist reform. Our party works toward the creation of a Christian socialist society with respect for basic principles and human rights.

In addition, the PSC is still defending the same Nicaraguan class that exploited, isolated, and impoverished the Nicaraguan people, because the PSC is on the side of the right wing and the COSEP [Higher Council of Private Enterprise].

It can often be said that there are those among us whose views reveal what some call a bourgeois influence; yet, to a certain extent we have become the defenders of the weak and dispossessed in this country because, by conviction, we have always struggled for the poor, for the dispossessed. We have chosen the Christian path of helping the poor. On the other hand, there are people in the other party who do not come from bourgeois classes and who are fighting against their own class. This makes them displaced persons. This is not a positive action, because they are not defending their class, but are actually playing the game of the class that has neglected and exploited this country.

The PSC also views economic and social problems differently. We support all changes made by the revolutionary process. We disapprove of some of them, but this is logical. However, we always continue to be revolutionaries with a positive view of the revolutionary process. We defend this revolution as our own; we defend our homeland's sovereignty. In contrast, we have never seen the PSC defend the revolutionary process, let alone issue statements in defense of the homeland's sovereignty. There are great differences, therefore, between the PSC and the PPSC. Although we all call ourselves social Christians, our social Christian outlook sympathizes with the poor; the outlook of the PSC and its Christian socialism is reformism that promotes neo-capitalism instead of serving the poor.

[Zelaya] Does the PPSC have any international links?

[Delgadillo] Yes, the PPSC has ties with some social Christian parties in Europe and Latin America. We are also in the process of creating the so-called International Christian Left that will be composed of parties from Latin America. In Central America, we have close ties with the Salvadoran Social Christian People's Movement, which supports the FMLN and FDR.

[Caller Rivera] My name is Moises Rivera. I want to ask whether, within the Christianity that the PPSC practices, there is condemnation of the U.S. attacks from Hondurans that have caused many deaths, including the death of the child Etelvi Karina [12-second break in transmission] due to these actions by the United States, through its allies and the Honduran puppet army. What do you think about this?

[Delgadillo] I think that the companero asking the question is confusing us with the PSC. I would like to answer in the following way: At the beginning of my presentation, I extended my utmost sympathy to the people of Corinto, which is my hometown, for those who died there 2 days ago. I believe that in that introduction, I made my position clear. As a Christian, I think that what you say is very logical: All Nicaraguan Christians should say that U.S. imperialist attacks are cowardly murders and that the international community should stop these attacks that have brought so many deaths and so much suffering to our dear Nicaraguan people and to all Nicaraguan mothers.

Therefore, I agree with you that the parties that call themselves Christian and do not repudiate these attacks by U.S. imperialism and its lackeys here in Central America lack Christian consciousness.

OPPOSITION LEADER RIVAS ON DIFFERENCES WITH FSLN

PM121536 Madrid ABC in Spanish 7 Mar 84 p 30

[Jose Antonio A. Gundin dispatch: "Opposition Troubles in Nicaragua"]

[Excerpt] Managua -- Most of the political opposition in Nicaragua consists of three political parties (Social Democrats, Social Christians and the Freedom Party) and the Higher Council of Private Enterprise, which in turn unites five sectors from all areas of production. The whole makes up the Democratic Coordinating Board. It is headed by Luis Rivas, a 45-year-old doctor, a well known anti-Somozist and currently secretary of the Social Democratic Party. He is a respected politician, even by the Sandinists. He wants to be optimistic but cannot avoid pessimism. "Unless there are free elections, really free elections, here, there will be another war -- I am sure of it. And the Sandinist Front knows it."

Question: What does the opposition intend to do if another war breaks out?

Answer: Nothing. We will not get involved in it. They will have brought it on themselves, and it is the Sandinists that must face the consequences. We have already told them several times: If they want to avert war, if they want to put an end to the "contras" -- armed opposition groups -- let them grant freedom.

Question: What has been the Sandinists' reply?

Answer: That the elections will be free.

Question: And do you believe it?

Answer: Not so far. I will tell you why. The elections have been brought forward, but democratic conditions have not been created. Press censorship and the emergency law are still in force. The constitution has been changed just as the Sandinists pleased. The entire state has been taken over by the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN], the Army, the police, television, the judiciary, and food distribution. In short, everything is in the FSLN's hands. Can elections be held under such conditions?

Question: Suppose for a moment that even so the conditions for free elections could perhaps be created. What will the Coordinating Board do?

Answer: You are asking a major act of faith of me. Especially if you consider that the 1,400 decrees promulgated so far -- one a day -- by the military government limit, control, and supervise everything. But if after all the FSLN and its "friends" realize that they must grant freedom, then we would take part in the elections.

Totalitarian Blueprint

Question: Give me three reasons why people should not vote FSLN.

Answer: Only three? Well, because its blueprint is totalitarian, Soviet-style. Chernenko himself has just said so, because in 4 years it has ruined the country and because it has appropriated the country and its sovereignty.

Question: What do you mean by that last remark?

Answer: Do you know how many foreign "internationalists" there are in Nicaragua now? The number is incalculable: Cubans, Czechoslovaks, Bulgarians, Soviets, Libyans, East Germans... and even Koreans. And of course they are not here as tourists.

Question: Is the Democratic Coordinating Board united, or are there splits, as one infers from commentaries in the newspapers?

Answer: Of course there is unity. Do not trust the official media. The Coordinating Board is united and knows that it needs unity.

Question: How many members do you have?

Answer: It could cost 3-6 years' imprisonment to answer that question. Polls are not authorized.

Question: What is your opinion of the armed opposition?

Answer: I do not agree with its methods, but I am sure that if it did not exist we would already have been eliminated.

Question: You are accused of being former Somozists. What do you say?

Answer: I say that they should kindly look at your record. I myself was wounded, persecuted, and held under Somoza. Moreover, the Somozists are either in prison or enjoying comfortable exile. Let them not tell us such tales.

Question: What will you do if the FSLN wins the elections fairly?

Answer: If that happens, we will support the FSLN.

VOICE OF SANDINO BROADCASTS ARDE WAR REPORTS

Activities During February

PA101356 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 2300 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Report on operations during February issued by the General Command of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Armed Forces in Sarapiquí, Rio San Juan Department, on 5 March]

[Excerpt] ARDE forces carried out 7 attacks in February on military posts 31 ambushes, and our search and destroy patrols participated in 27 clashes, for a total of 55 military actions, in which of a reported 736 enemy casualties 317 were confirmed dead and 109 wounded. Our forces also destroyed military post buildings, two cannons, a helicopter, two station wagons, and a boat.

As result of the operation carried out by our (Barracuda) specialized command in mining the ports, three fishing boats armed by the Sandinist People's Army, EPS, were destroyed, in addition to a Coast Guard vessel. Our forces suffered 5 deaths and 18 wounded. Despite the favorable results of our military operations, ARDE wishes to point out that the results do not satisfy us, as we have maintained that we do not want war and that we regret the continued loss of our Nicaraguan brothers' lives.

ARDE has made repeated appeals for peace. It is only the intransigence of those holding power today who irresponsibly disregard our political proposals intended to lead the nation to peace, and who prefer to obey instructions from Havana and Moscow, which forces us, against our will, to continue the bloodshed until we can liberate our people from foreign domination.

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

Clash in Rivas

PA130325 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 2300 GMT 12 Mar 84

[War Bulletin No 191 released by the General Command of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Armed Forces, in Sarapiquí, Rio San Juan Department, on 12 March]

[Text] The ARDE General Command announces to the Nicaraguan people and to the free peoples of the world that:

1. At 1725 on 8 March, the Mauricio Sanchez Ayon Column of the Liebre Unit, under the command of Companero Tiro Fijo, which operates on the Isthmus of Rivas, ambushed an interventionist army reconnaissance patrol near Amalia Bridge, north of Colon and 22 km west of the City of Rivas, resulting in one enemy dead.
2. At 1400 on 5 March in Cano del Guineo, Punta Gorda municipality, the Gaspar Garcia Laviana Column of the Pablo Martinez Unit, under the command of Companero Coyolito, clashed with an enemy patrol, inflicting three dead and several wounded on them. Our companero, Simeon Suazo, was killed in this action to liberate the fatherland.
3. At 1645 on 6 March, the Gaspar Laviana Column, operating in the same zone, this time under the command of Companero Garrapata, clashed with the interventionist army, resulting in five enemy deaths. We suffered the heroic death of our brave Companero Garrapata, the commander of our patrol. His real name was Evaristo Aguilar.

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

[Signed] Eden Pastora Gomez, ARDE Armed Forces General Commander

BRIEFS

NEW BRIGADE PRESENTED -- Masaya -- Brigade Commander Francisco Rivera, chief of the Directorate of the Sandinist People's Militias, spoke in Masaya at the presentation of the Commander Hilario Sanchez Combat Brigade on the 1st anniversary of this heroic figure's death. Also presiding at the ceremonies were Brigade Commander Leopoldo Rivas, deputy minister of defense; Brigade Commander Hugo Torres, chief of the Political Directorate of the Sandinist People's Army; and Federico Lopez, regional FSLN political secretary. [Summary] [Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 5 Mar 84 p 5 PA]

RESERVE BATTALION RETURNS -- Chinandega, Nicaragua -- The people of Chichigalpa took to the streets last weekend to receive Reserve Battalion 40-21, which has for months been defending our national sovereignty in Zelaya. Six reservists were killed while defending the revolution. A ceremony was held to welcome the group back, followed by a popular party that lasted well into the night. [Summary] [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 12 Mar 84 PA]

VALDES, SOTO MEET WITH CPSU'S VOROTNIKOV

FL121500 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Ramiro Valdes Menendez, Politburo member of the Cuban Communist Party and vice president of the Councils of Ministers and State, has met with Vitaliy Vorotnikov, Politburo member of the CPSU and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers. Lionel Soto, Secretariat member of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee and Cuban ambassador to the Soviet Union, was also present at the meeting. The meeting took place in a very fraternal atmosphere as befits the close relations that unite the communist parties, Governments, and peoples of the Soviet Union and Cuba.

Minister of Interior Ramiro Valdes Menendez has been visiting the Soviet Union for several days now.

HERRERA SIGNS RADIO, TELEVISION PROTOCOL IN USSR

FL121540 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] The heads of the radio and television committees of Cuba and the Soviet Union have signed an agreement in Moscow covering the 1984-85 period.

Sergey Lapin, member of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting, and Nivaldo Herrera, president of the Cuban Institute of Radio and Television [ICRT], signed the document at a ceremony held at the Soviet organization's offices. Lionel Soto, Secretariat member of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee and ambassador to the Soviet Union, was also present.

Nivaldo Herrera expressed his pleasure at being in the USSR for the signing of the protocol and said: A new step has been taken in the fraternal relationship existing between the two institutions.

Departs for Prague

FL130156 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Nivaldo Herrera, president of the Cuban Institute of Radio and Television [ICRT], left Moscow today for Prague on a visit to Czechoslovakia that will last several days. The Cuban leader had completed a visit to the USSR, during which he met with Sergey Lapin, chairman of the State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting. The two leaders yesterday signed a bilateral television and radio cooperation protocol for the years 1984-85.

CZECH INDUSTRY MINISTER SIGNS AGREEMENT

FL121545 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Czech and Slovak delegations from these socialist republics' ministries of industry visited Cuba from 3-12 March. A protocol was signed in Havana by the Czech Minister of Industry Miroslav Kapoun, and Marcos Portal and Manuel Millares, Cuban ministers of basic and light industry, respectively.

During the delegations' visit, meetings were held with Cuban officials covering areas of economic and scientific-technical industrial cooperation, specifically in the areas of leather and footwear.

Leaves for Czechoslovakia

FL121943 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Comrade Miroslav Kapoun, minister of industry of the Czech Socialist Republic, left for his country last night. Kapoun remained in our country for several days to complete a working visit.

Light Industry Minister Manuel Millares, Basic Industry Minister Marcos Portal, Czechoslovak Ambassador Milos Vojta, and other Czechoslovak and Cuban leaders saw Kapoun off at the airport.

During his stay in Cuba, Kapoun held talks of mutual interest in the areas of the shoe, textile, and glass industries. As a result of the talks among the three ministers, a cooperation agreement was signed which includes technical assistance, the supply of products, and trade in various areas.

ANGOLAN PRESIDENT REPORTEDLY TO PAY VISIT

LD130021 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 0000 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] We heard about an hour ago that [Angolan] President Jose Eduardo dos Santos is to pay a visit to Cuba. The news is not yet official but diplomatic circles in Havana regard the visit as certain.

The trip to Cuba by the leader of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola may be connected with the possible withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angolan territory following the recent Lusaka agreement between Luanda and Pretoria.

CASTRO ISSUES LETTERS ON ENERGY CONSERVATION

FL121505 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1203 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz has sent letters to workers at the agro-industrial centers of the transportation and sugar ministries in Villa Clara Province. The text of the letters stressed the importance of the special effort expected from these centers, their administrative leadership, their political and labor organizations, and their workers in the country's struggle for maximum energy conservation.

Fidel's letters to the workers of Villa Clara Province added that a thorough analysis of the country's energy savings will soon begin in all state agencies in an effort to abide by the energy savings measures included in the 1984 social and economic program. He said that these analyses, to be made at assemblies convened by the unions, must be prepared as thoroughly and objectively as possible, and must include factors which effect an optimum use of electricity, fuel, and lubricants.

RADIO STATIONS ANNOUNCE NEW PROGRAMMING

FL121925 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] New programming will go into effect on Monday, 19 March, as a result of the disappearance of Radio Liberacion. According to Radio Progreso Director Juan Rivero, 10 Liberacion programs will be aired by Progreso because of its larger audience.

Meanwhile, Radio Rebelde Director Juan Hernandez announced that his station will air music and various information 24 hours a day.

[Begin Hernandez recording] At the first second of 26 March, on the night of 25 March, Radio Rebelde will go on the air. It is a new radio station that will begin broadcasting after the merger or dissolution of Radio Rebelde, which is currently on the air, and Radio Liberacion. This new radio station will keep the name Radio Rebelde. [end recording]

ANPP REPORTS, EVALUATES ELECTION PROGRESS

FL121855 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] The preliminary report on candidate nominations to the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP] shows satisfactory results. A total of 25,562 assemblies were held for candidate nominations throughout the country. In these assemblies, 91.2 percent of the predicted number of voters turned out; that is, 5,742,871 persons. There were 23,107 nominees throughout the nation with more than 16 percent of them women and more than 23 percent laborers. To date, the nomination process has ended in 10,951 electoral districts. At these assemblies 39.7 percent of the delegates holding office were not renominated.

Jose Aranaburo, ANPP secretary, held a press conference at the National Electoral Commission offices where he read an evaluation on the progress of the elections.

[Begin Aranaburo recording] The results of the evaluation conducted by the National Electoral Commission show that this election exemplified the participation of the masses in the election process, and is an example of socialist democracy in our nation. It has also strengthened our democratic mechanisms in the nomination and election of governmental bodies in all of the nation's municipalities.

The work of the electoral commissions at the district, municipal, and provincial levels -- working closely with mass organizations -- has been superior. The result, according to our report, is that we have had our best ever candidate selection process. [end recording]

Aranaburo said that the increase in the number of women nominated as candidates, in contrast with the previous nominations, demonstrates women's efficiency in governmental activities and indicates a development in the role women play in our society.

He added that election activities which will be held on 15 and 22 April are developing rapidly, and that approximately 20,000 electoral colleges will be created throughout the country for the elections. On 15 March the official elector lists will be published. Candidate photographs and biographies are currently being prepared.

TANZANIAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SPEAKER VISITS

FL102014 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] Adam Sapi Mkwawa, speaker of the Tanzanian National Assembly, and a group of National Assembly members who are accompanying him visited several production centers in Havana Province, including the Camilo Cienfuegos agroindustrial complex, the sugar mill carpentry shop [fabrica de tableros], the town of Jibacoa, the East Havana Livestock Enterprise, and [words indistinct] in Santa Cruz del Norte. The visitors were interested in sugar production and the use of bagasse, and in the development plan being generally put into effect in Santa Cruz.

During their visit they were accompanied by Pedro Chavez, president of the Havana Province Provincial Assembly of the People's Government, and leaders of Santa Cruz del Norte Municipality.

WOUNDED NICARAGUAN CONTRAS TREATED IN COSTA RICA

PA100413 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] An average of seven wounded Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries per week are being treated in a hospital in the northern Costa Rican city of Quesada, the San Jose newspaper LA PRENSA LIBRE has stated. Doctors at San Carlos Hospital have reported that many of these patients have very serious bullet wounds that obviously did not result from accidents while cleaning weapons, as they sometimes pretend, the newspaper reported. In addition, most of those who are hospitalized because of wounds wear combat uniforms and bear clear evidence of having been involved in fighting, the Costa Rican newspaper stresses.

In San Carlos, a mothers' organization has charged that anti-Sandinist groups are offering tempting salaries to unemployed youths in the area in order to enlist them in their plans to attack Nicaragua.

COMMENTARY CITES DEFEAT OF CONARA IN EL SALVADOR

PA121649 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Mar 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] On 10 January 1981, the FMLN launched a general offensive against the Salvadoran dictatorship. This led to the emergence of areas under revolutionary control and made it possible to consolidate larger-scale guerrilla contingents and to begin concentrating strategic national mobile units. The development that has been achieved ever since large geographic areas came under the rebels' political and military control is reflected in a gradually increasing capacity to strike at the enemy and to annihilate increasingly larger forces belonging to the puppet army. Since 1982, this escalation has included military campaigns that have revealed the increasingly higher levels of the FMLN's military capacity.

In late February, the guerrilla forces' high military command launched a new offensive called "Long Live the Heroes and Martyrs of 28 February 1977." In its first 9 days, the rebels inflicted almost 80 casualties on the Army and seized many of its weapons, including a 90-mm cannon.

The clandestine Radio Venceremos has recalled that this campaign began with the seizure of the locality of Nazahuat. This was followed by the occupation of several towns in the Departments of Santa Ana, La Libertad, and San Miguel. The insurgent forces have stepped up their actions in the last few days, after attacking a train that was carrying troops and fuel between San Salvador, the capital, and the city of La Libertad.

In an effort to counteract the guerrilla's military escalation, the Salvadoran regime implemented in 1983 the so-called plan of the National Commission for Reconstruction of Affected Areas, which has become known as the CONARA Plan. The purpose of this plan is to try to restore the social and economic life in areas affected by the war through intensive military action of governmental forces, which would be present on a permanent basis. The idea is also to exhaust the guerrilla forces, which would presumably leave the area, thus allowing the Army to double its recovered areas, to organize new forms of vigilance with a safe population, and to establish villages of the kind created by the United States during its war on Vietnam, so-called strategic villages.

However, the first CONARA Plan ended as was to be expected, with a new military-political failure for the dictatorship and U.S. imperialism. They were unable to give any continuity to the project, as they had to confront the FMLN forces' successful political-military actions.

Despite this, the regime persisted in its effort, and in early February it launched another CONARA Plan, which was hypocritically named "Welfare for Usulután." On this occasion, the dictatorship did not add flowery adjectives to the plan, which it described simply as a counterinsurgency operation intended to eliminate the guerrilla groups in the area. The plan in question was carried out in Usulután by Army units and 6th Infantry Brigade troops, backed by the Salvadoran Air Force, which indiscriminately bombed and strafed the civilian population, among whom the guerrillas were presumably hidden. After 12 days of counterinsurgency operations, an even more total defeat wiped out the Salvadoran dictatorship's hopes.

The failures of these CONARA Plans constitute new defeats for the U.S. political strategy in El Salvador. Instead of reducing their activities, the guerrillas have intensified their political and military actions, thus also undermining the new U.S. electoral maneuver. The revolutionaries have consolidated their positions in several parts of the nation. Thus, as the political commentators insist, it is inconceivable that an election can be just and democratic when the political forces under whose direction a large part of the Salvadoran people live and work are absent.

EL SALVADOR'S FMLN READIES FOR FOREIGN ATTACK

PA121946 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] The FMLN has asserted that all of its combat units have been ordered to repel any attack launched by foreign forces. In a communique broadcast on Radio Venceremos, the FMLN charged that within the next 24 hours, 2,000 U.S. Marines will be transferred from the Panama Canal area to Honduras areas near El Salvador. The communique stresses that 800 U.S. troops and several Honduran Army units are already in that region. According to the FMLN, these enemy forces stand ready on Honduran territory adjacent to the Salvadoran Departments of Morazan, Chalatenango, and Cabanas, which are under guerrilla control.

Finally, the FMLN announced that rebel columns are fighting the government's troops in large parts of the Departments of Usulután, San Miguel, and San Vicente.

For his part, San Salvador Archbishop Arturo Rivera y Damas has charged that in the last 7 days, the paramilitary groups killed 10 people and that 150 others died as a result of the Army's so-called punishment operations in the rural areas.

FMLN-FDR OCCUPIES SALVADORAN RADIO STATIONS

PA102337 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] Salvadoran guerrillas occupied three radio stations in San Salvador and broadcast a proposal for negotiations through a peaceful dialogue. The stations occupied were Radio El Mundo, Radio Clasica, and Radio Centroamericana, in the northern part of the Salvadoran capital, which broadcast the proposal made last February by the FMLN-FDR asking for the creation of a provisional government with participation of the revolutionary forces.

Meanwhile, in San Salvador, hundreds of political prisoners continued the hunger strike started 10 days ago to demand better living conditions in prisons.

The UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva has charged that doctors of the San Salvador military hospital allowed Marianela Garcia to die from serious wounds following an Army massacre in March 1983, during which she was seriously injured. Marianela Garcia was president of the Human Rights Commission of El Salvador.

FIGHTING REPORTED IN NORTH, CENTRAL EL SALVADOR

Guerrillas Stage Ambush

FL100251 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] New fighting has taken place between the Salvadoran Army and guerrilla forces near Tecoluca in the northwestern part of San Vicente in central El Salvador. The number of casualties from this attack was 8 Salvadoran soldiers killed and 17 wounded, according to military sources in San Vicente. The report added that the fighting began because Salvadoran guerrillas ambushed soldiers from the 5th Infantry Brigade who were patrolling the southern part of San Vicente.

Another report said that troops of San Vicente's 5th Infantry Brigade, along with soldiers from an elite military battalion, were sent to track the guerrillas following the clashes in the region. Another report said that guerrillas had ambushed a military convoy in a siege that lasted more than 10 hours. There were no casualties.

Clashes in Three Departments

PA121823 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Salvadoran military sources have admitted that intense clashes have taken place in the last few hours in northern Cuscatlan, San Vicente, and Cabanas Departments, while reports indicate that the country's eastern region has been left without electricity since Saturday by sabotage actions carried out by the rebels.

SALPRESS has reported that guerrilla forces attacked San Rafael Cedros and that other units harassed government forces in Santo Domingo and San Sebastian. The news agency added that intense clashes occurred between guerrillas and Salvadoran Army troops in Ilobasco and Tejutepeque, and that three Air Force helicopters bombed the cantons of Las Pavas, Mirandilla, and El Zapote in the northern area of the Guazapa volcano.

Radio Venceremos, the Salvadoran rebels radio station, has reported that soldiers decapitated a 5-year-old child and shot his father to death in the canton of Managuara in San Vicente Department.

Meanwhile, San Salvador Archbishop Arturo Rivera y Damas has charged that, despite all domestic and foreign pressure, the death squads in El Salvador continue to act with impunity.

GUATEMALAN REBELS CITE REGIME'S VULNERABILITY

FL091648 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1506 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] In their latest international bulletin, the Rebel Armed Forces of Guatemala have warned that General Mejia Victores' regime has reached a state of vulnerability similar to that of his predecessor and that the possibility of a new coup cannot be discounted. In recent weeks, several of that country's political sectors have expressed a lack of confidence in the electoral process being planned there.

There is also news of a clash between government troops and guerrillas in (San Miguel Pajapa), western Guatemala, where government troops committed several kidnappings and murders a few days ago. The National Committee of Trade Union Unity has reported that 14 trade union leaders and labor advisers have been the victims of government violence since last November.

GUATEMALAN STUDENTS VICTIMS OF KIDNAPPINGS

PA110106 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] Dispatches from Guatemala City have revealed that two students were victims of repressive actions in that Central American country. Eyewitnesses reported that Ismael Selechnik was taken from his home by persons who had been watching his residence for several hours. He was taken to an unknown destination in a vehicle with no license plate.

Another student, identified as Angel Danilo Gonzalez of San Carlos University, has been admitted to Roosevelt Hospital in Guatemala City for treatment of bullet wounds. He was kidnapped a week ago by unidentified persons.

JOURNAL CITED ON STEPPED-UP ATTACKS ON NICARAGUA

FL122226 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2107 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] U.S. intelligence sources have confirmed to the WALL STREET JOURNAL that the recent escalation in terrorist attacks against Nicaragua was ordered by the CIA. The newspaper states that the increase in counterrevolutionary attacks represents an attempt to convince the U.S. Congress that the attacks are profitable; this attempt takes place at a time when the White House is seeking more funds for such activities.

An intelligence officer told the newspaper that if the administration decides to vote more funds, then the counterrevolutionaries will be able to justify their existence and show to what degree they are effective. The sources added that the present terrorist escalation reflects the desire of the White House to erode the Nicaraguan economy and, in addition, discourage alleged Nicaraguan support for the Salvadoran guerrillas.

NICARAGUA'S BORGE CITED ON MINING OF PORTS

PA121815 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Mar 84

[From the weekly feature on the Nonaligned Movement]

[Text] Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge has said that the mining of Nicaraguan ports establishes a precedent in Latin America, the final consequences of which cannot be imagined. He stressed that the irresponsibility of the current U.S. Administration has reached such extremes that soon no one will be safe anywhere in the world. To the mining of the ports one must add the anti-Sandinists' air and naval attacks on border sectors and military facilities in Nicaragua's Atlantic and Pacific areas. Eleven Nicaraguans have lost their lives, including a 1-year-old girl, in what is regarded as the onset of a new aggressive escalation.

Meanwhile, preparations for next year's elections continue in that Central American country. In this regard, the Nicaraguan State Council has agreed to recognize the Nicaraguan Armed Forces members' right to vote in the election. It has also lowered the age of citizens who are entitled to vote to 16.

On another subject, it has been learned that the provisional Grenadian Government has implemented a strict ban on events marking the fifth anniversary of the overthrow of Eric Gairy's authoritarian regime. Although the government's spokesman has not specified the reasons, it has been learned that the measure was adopted because such events are regarded as a sign of opposition to the U.S. military presence on that Caribbean island.

PANAMANIAN SHIP HITS MINE IN CORINTO, NICARAGUA

FL101410 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] Brigades of workers have been unloading the cargo transported by the Panamanian ship "Los Caribes," which was severely damaged when it hit what is presumed to have been a mine in the port of Corinto, Nicaragua. The ship was damaged next to the entrance channel of Nicaragua's most important port and was taken to the dock, where workers are unloading 2,661 metric tons of cargo transported from Cuba.

The explosion of unknown origin opened a large crack in the ship's bow. Because of the danger that the ship would sink, its captain, (Rafael Duran Lopez), ordered its 21-man crew to abandon ship.

PRIEST DENIES MISKITOS IN NICARAGUA PERSECUTED

PA112006 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] Alleged persecution of the Nicaraguan Miskito Indians is mere propaganda inspired by the United States to discredit the Sandinist government, Italian Catholic priest Agustin Zambola has said. Zambola, who is working on the Miskito resettlement program in Nicaragua, said that achieving the active and democratic incorporation of minorities in the Nicaraguan process is being hindered by external pressures and U.S. threats of invasion.

NICARAGUAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANS REPORTED

FL101640 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1529 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] Three agroindustrial projects and six basic food plans for the economic development of Nicaragua that are in the process of consolidation represent an investment of more than \$500 million. In addition to these projects, six others that deal with grain crops, perennial plants, and livestock will be undertaken, with the goal of replacing imports which require a large percentage of the funds available in the Nicaraguan trade balance.

It was also reported from managua that \$84 million will be invested in the production of light tobacco, making it possible to raise this product to third place among all Nicaraguan exports.

GRENADIANS ASK FOR LARGER COMPENSATION

FL100252 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] According to an official report, U.S. military occupation of Grenada has resulted in more than \$100 million worth of damage to this Caribbean island last October. The worst of it is that the U.S. Government is refusing to make any compensation for those losses and has limited itself to re-paying a so-called compensation sum of a miserly \$40,000. According to Grenada's Office of Community and Social Development [Oficina de Desarrollo Comunitario y Social de Grenada], Grenadians claim \$50 million worth of damage to individual property caused by Yankee Marines and another \$33 million for lodging expenses. The most affected Grenadian civilians were the ones who lived nearest the airport at Point Salines, which was the area picked by U.S. invaders as their main battleground.

GRENADA GOVERNMENT BARS ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

FL100201 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] The so-called interim Government of Grenada today announced in St George's that it will not authorize the holding of events to commemorate the popular revolution that ousted the Eric Gairy regime on 13 March 1979. When the U.S. invasion occurred in October 1983, the government of the Caribbean island was planning the ceremonies of the fifth anniversary of the Grenadian revolution which were to include the dedication of Point Salines Airport. A close Bishop collaborator, former Agriculture Minister George Louison last week said that the current authorities would tolerate the 13 March celebration. The administration installed on the island by the invading troops, however, concluded that the 13 March events would result in a large drive of national repudiation for the U.S. presence in Grenada.

U.S. SEEKS RETURN OF GRENADA COLONIAL STRUCTURES

FL122223 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 12 Mar 84

[FAR and Interior Ministry Combatants Political Information Program Commentary]

[Text] Former dictator Eric Gairy's return to Grenada is perhaps the most noticeable sign of the return-to-the-past atmosphere imposed on this Caribbean island following the Yankee intervention of 25 October 1983.

With Gairy back in Grenada, the Reagan administration has openly shown its decision to force that small island to revert to the colonial structures existing there prior to the 13 March 1979 revolutionary triumph. In the island's history, this date marks the anniversary to the assumption of power by murdered Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and, with that, the arrival of a process of profound socioeconomic reforms, which were truncated by imperialism and its underlings.

Following the U.S. invasion, the great social, economic, and political projects sponsored by the revolutionary government disappeared. The Point Salines Airport, which was conceived during the Bishop administration as a pillar for the island's tourist expansion, now has become an installation for Washington's strategic military plans in the region.

The mechanisms set in motion by Bishop to diversify trade, eliminate dependence on the United States, and give the public sector a truly active role in the island's affairs are being dismantled, and the Yankee investors are taking over everything. The gains made by the Bishop government in health services, culture, education, employment, and economic development were totally crushed by the invaders.

Prior to 1979, Gairy had in Grenada 50 percent unemployment and one physician for every 4,000 persons. Bishop's revolution reduced unemployment to 12 percent and increased health services to the degree that there was a physician for every 2,700 inhabitants.

The Marines' arrival destroyed this social infrastructure, and Reagan now proclaims that Grenada has returned to democracy, as if democracy were a synonym for oppression, exploitation, poverty, lack of culture, and hunger.

An example of the repressive atmosphere existing today on the island is the fact that the present misgovernment has forbidden any type of cultural celebration sponsored by the Maurice Bishop Memorial Foundation to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the revolution. It is also known that the U.S. Embassy on the island considers as anti-U.S. any type of ceremony honoring Bishop and the New Jewel Movement. All these goings-on deserve a studied pondering by Third World countries and should serve as a valuable lesson.

The 13 March 1979 revolution demonstrated how profound and beneficial socioeconomic reforms can be for any country, no matter how small it might be. The revolution's murder has shown how far imperialism will go to turn history back.

CHILEAN POLITICAL-ECONOMIC SITUATION VIEWED

PA101147 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 8 Mar 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] The Chilean fascist regime has recently increased its repression of the people, especially the workers. Many labor leaders have been arrested or confined to inhospitable places in the country, with the goal of stopping the people's growing unrest due to the existing political and economic situation.

Many protest demonstrations were held last year to demand the resignation of the dictator Augusto Pinochet and the implementation of political and economic measures. The Chilean workers and political organizations of many convictions led these demonstrations.

Approximately three-quarters of the population is opposed to Pinochet's dictatorship. Only the most reactionary sectors linked to the oligarchy that controls the finances and the Army's chiefs still support the Chilean dictator.

The social sectors that supported Pinochet during the bloody 1973 coup d'etat are now opposed to the dictatorship. In a way, this proves that the Chilean military Government has been a disaster.

In addition to the draconian political measures the regime has enforced in its 11 years in power, the economic policies the Pinochet dictatorship has implemented during this time have placed Chile on the verge of bankruptcy. Chile is currently facing the most desolate economic and political situation in its history.

These have been years during which more than 20,000 Chileans were murdered and approximately 100,000 were imprisoned and tortured. Some 2,500 political prisoners disappeared after being sent to the dungeons and thousands of citizens were exiled for political and economic reasons.

For more than a decade, the Chilean people have been deprived of their rights as citizens and have been subjected to the abuses of the dictatorship. During this period, Chile has not had any labor union rights and those in power have been given a free hand to exploit the workers. It has been a period of exploitation and of a sharp drop of wages, and 30 percent of Chileans remain without jobs.

This unpopular regime is the reason why more than 750,000 Chilean families do not have homes, why some 160,000 families in the city have had their water supply cut off, why approximately 300 towns are without electricity, and why public health and education are in a state of absolute neglect.

These years have been the most disastrous the middle class has ever had. Thousands of public employees have been turned into the streets, and teachers have been dishonored and ruined. The same is true of thousands of professionals and technicians who are unable to get jobs, while small and medium industrialists, businessmen, and transportation owners have gone bankrupt. More than 60,000 farmers are unable to pay their debts and many have had their land auctioned.

It has been a decade in which the country's productive forces, instead of developing, have seen the closure of some 3,900 national industries. The gross domestic product dropped to 14 percent last year in a continuous downward trend. Chile's foreign debt is the highest per capita in the world.

Only the military, the financial monopolistic groups, and the U.S. transnationals have made big profits in these years of poverty.

This is the situation that Pinochet and his supporters are trying to perpetuate and against which the people are waging an organized and conscientious struggle.

ISRAELI, SOUTH AFRICAN ARMS TO CHILE CRITICIZED

PA130226 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 12 Mar 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Excerpts] The repressive and criminal nature of Augusto Pinochet's regime definitely confirms the danger of selling arms to Chile. Israel and South Africa have been internationally criticized for selling arms to the Chilean regime, which has also received U.S.-made arms and ammunition.

Peruvian media have reported that the United States is planning to send Pershing I missiles to Chile after the Pershing II missiles are installed in some Western European countries. Meanwhile, some Peruvian Armed Forces chiefs have asked that U.S. and Chilean Government officials confirm or deny the reports, but there has been no definite answer as of yet.

The Israeli Government has been a main supplier of arms to the Chilean military regime. Chilean and Israeli authorities have been part of the total U.S. strategy, and the arms trafficking between the two countries has U.S. approval. Israel and Chile have taken advantage of the arms trafficking, which will ultimately result in repression, murder, and oppression of the people.

PINOCHET ADDRESSES CHILEANS, PROPOSES REFERENDUM

PA121545 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Excerpts] A Carabinero was shot and injured in Santiago, Chile, in an attack carried out by a group of unidentified people, while in the city of Valparaiso, the explosion of four bombs caused a fire in a bookstore.

Meanwhile, Pinochet addressed the nation today on the occasion of the third anniversary of the Constitution that he imposed on the citizens, which allows him to remain in power until 1989. In his speech, he discussed the possibility of holding a plebiscite in the future on what he termed political issues, without specifying the issues that this would include.

However, the opposition sectors, which are demanding his resignation and the establishment of a democratic government, have called a new protest drive for 27 March. They have indicated that in April they will set the date for a national strike.

Opposition Calls Speech Ambiguous

FL122058 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] PRENSA LATINA reports that General Augusto Pinochet, head of Chile's regime, has proposed a constitutional amendment which would give him exclusive powers to call a referendum each time a political question arises. This is the impression the speech given by Pinochet on the 3d anniversary of the present Constitution left on the divergent sections of the city. Opposition politicians described the speech as ambiguous.

Pinochet announced that in the near future a constitutional amendment will be submitted for referendum which would allow him to publicly debate any political issue which could be described as lacking content.

Regarding the law on political parties, the opposition has refused to pass it because they consider it undemocratic, restrictive, and dangerous to their security.

CHILEAN GOVERNMENT BANS NEW OPPOSITION WEEKLY

PA100407 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] The Chilean military regime has banned the publication and distribution of the weekly FORTIN MAPOCHO for criticizing the authorities. FORTIN MAPOCHO, which appeared recently, is linked to opposition leaders of the National Development Project [Proyecto de Desarrollo Nacional]. The director of the new weekly, (Plaza Donoso), said that he had abided by all Chilean laws and stressed that the closure was a further violation of freedom of expression in Chile. Chilean Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa announced that he will take legal action against the publication for allegedly violating the state security law.

28 CHILEANS ARRESTED ON FORMER OFFICIAL'S RETURN

PA100214 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Chilean police arrested 28 people at the Santiago airport as they welcomed Sergio Vitar, government minister for the former Popular Unity government. Vitar, Christian left-wing leader, arrived in Chile from Venezuela. Vitar expressed his surprise at the arrests. He said that such things do not occur in any civilized country, where at least the rights to walk in the streets and to embrace a friend as he returns to the country are respected.

In Santiago, nine women gathered in a theater to celebrate International Women's Day and to demand the resignation of the dictator Augusto Pinochet. Several other anti-government demonstrations were held, resulting in the arrests of dozens of people.

ABSENTEES, INDIFFERENCE MARK COLOMBIAN ELECTIONS

FL121735 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1235 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Bogota -- According to a PRENSA LATINA commentary, departmental and municipal elections held in Colombia yesterday were characterized by the already traditional absenteeism and the people's indifference.

Local stations reported that everything was normal throughout the country. However, the Defense Ministry reported an attack on a police patrol in Santa Marta, (Alto Sino), Cordoba Department, by guerrillas of the People's Liberation Army. Two policemen were killed.

A Defense Ministry dispatch also disclosed the arrest of 44 people caught buying and selling votes. These incidents occurred mainly on the Atlantic coast.

PERUVIAN COMMUNIST LEADER ON OBJECTIVES, APRA

PA090444 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Jorge del Prado, secretary general of the Peruvian Communist Party, has said in Lima that the strategic objective of the United Leftist Coalition is to secure power with which to carry out a revolutionary transformation in that South American country.

Del Prado said that today's APRA [American Revolutionary Popular Alliance], the other important opposition force in Peru, is not exactly what it used to be and is now taking positive stands similar to those taken by the international social democrats.

Del Prado also referred to the growing trend in APRA to accentuate its differences with the United Leftists, so as to compete in the 1985 presidential elections.

The secretary general of the Peruvian Communist Party, who recently returned from a visit to Cuba and Nicaragua, stressed the revolutionary advances made in those two countries and denounced the threats of imperialist aggression against them. Del Prado also said that the defense of Nicaragua's national liberation process is an obligation of all the peoples and progressive forces in Latin America.

300 MINERS BEGIN 4TH HUNGER STRIKE IN PERU

PA101830 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] Some 300 workers of the Peruvian Cata Acari mines have begun their fourth hunger strike to demand payment of salaries that the firm has owed them for over a year.

(Julio Pisini), president of the Peruvian Chamber of Construction, asked the government to change its economic policies immediately, in order to prevent greater damage to the country's productive apparatus. He said that the country's GNP dropped by almost 12 percent in 1983. The Peruvian National Statistics Institute reported that unemployment in 1983 increased by 20 percent in comparison with the previous year.

Other reports state that nine presumed members of the Shining Path armed group were killed during an attack on a Civil Guard garrison in the town of Para, 90 km from Ayacucho city.

FLOODS, LANDSLIDES CAUSE MUCH DAMAGE IN PERU

PA122252 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Twelve people were killed in recent hours by the floods and landslides that have been affecting the Andean and jungle regions of Peru for nearly a month. There are now 60 recent victims of the calamitous weather. In addition, there is an unspecified number of people missing, and hundreds have been reported isolated without food or medicine. Damage has been reported to several roads, houses, and crops. Material losses have been estimated at over \$10 million.

In the northeastern part of Peru, heavy rains, landslides, and floods have completely isolated 18 communities, and 114 Indian villages along the banks of the Ucayali River in Loreto Department have been flooded, causing great damage to homes and the loss of animals and crops.

NEWSPAPER CITES PERUVIAN EDUCATION PROBLEMS

PA120326 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] The Lima newspaper HOY has reported that a high cost of textbooks, uniforms, and school supplies, added to a high drop-out rate and a high percentage of students who fail courses for economic reasons, are characteristic of the current educational situation in Peru. The newspaper said that in 1983 more than 6 million students enrolled in classes, but some 1 million students dropped out between August and October alone. An additional 2 million are repeaters, because they cannot gain the knowledge needed to pass exams, mainly because they have been undernourished since childhood.

PROTEST STAGED AT PARAGUAYAN CONSULATE IN SPAIN

PA120258 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] Several hundred demonstrators carrying a large poster that read "Paraguay: In 4 months, it will be 30 years" gathered in front of the Paraguayan Consulate in Bilbao, Spain, to protest the systematic violation of human rights in South American country. The demonstrators gathered signatures from sympathizers of Paraguayan political prisoners and explained that the campaign in defense of human rights will last until mid-March.

Amnesty International, which organized the demonstration in Bilbao, said that arbitrary arrests are commonplace in Paraguay. In addition, political prisoners are denied fair trials and are often mistreated. The organization said that some prisoners have died in captivity or disappeared after their arrest.

DOZENS INJURED, ARRESTED IN URUGUAYAN PROTEST

PA111944 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] Dozens of persons were injured, among them 26 policemen and another 50 were arrested during clashes between police and antigovernment demonstrators in Montevideo. The incidents took place after a carnival parade when thousands of persons shouted slogans and chanted antidictatorial phrases. Policemen tried to repress the demonstrations, but were forced to withdraw under a shower of bottles, sticks, stones, and other objects thrown at them.

PANAMANIAN PRESIDENT MEETS WITH CONATO LEADERS

PA122259 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Panamanian President Jorge Illueca has met for the second time in 2 weeks with leaders of the National Council of Organized Workers [CONATO], and has assured them that the government is not promoting any special law to modify the existing labor code.

Illueca announced the possible creation of a national labor council to find permanent solutions to the nation's labor problems.

The labor leaders expressed their concern to the president of the Republic over the stalemate at the National Legislation Council on the professional hazards bill and another creating the workers' bank.

SOCIALIST BLOC CRITICAL OF IMF AGREEMENTS

FL121850 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 7 Mar 84 p 2

[From the "Political Activity" column by Saul Pimentel]

[Text] The Socialist Bloc has demanded that the government break negotiations with the IMF because it believes that the new agreements that the two sides are to sign will further reduce the standard of living in the country's poorest sectors. The socialist bloc said that the government must reject the imposition of viewpoints from international capitalists represented in the IMF delegation that arrived in the country on 6 February and that was planning to return to Washington on Friday.

"It is possible that part of the oil imports will be affected by the agreements because of the application of a different rate that would force the government to increase the price of gasoline, which would become a new burden for the poor sectors," the bloc noted. The socialist bloc feels that we can seek a national solution that includes meeting popular demands and decreasing the great sacrifices being made by the Dominican people while a small group is becoming richer.

ADMIRAL BORDAS ON NARCOTICS TRAFFIC, CONTRABAND

FL122052 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 7 Mar 84 pp 1, 8

[Excerpts] Vice Admiral Arturo Bordas Betances, chief of the Navy General Staff, yesterday said that traffic in narcotics and other contraband is under control because of joint action by the Armed Forces.

The vice admiral said that President Salvador Jorge Blanco will soon deliver two "high speed" ships to the Navy that will be used to increase patrols and surveillance "to combat contraband, drugs, and the illegal trips that have become so frequent in the last few years." He commented that contraband and drug traffic "have recently come under control."

On the number of naval ships, the vice admiral said that the Navy has "15 or 20 units in service," consisting of patrol boats, cutters, gunboats, tankers -- for fuel transport -- and auxiliary ships. He said that the two new units to be incorporated into the Navy are "fast Coast Guard cutters worth approximately 3 million pesos" [as published]. Bordas Betances said that with the two new ships, "patrols and surveillance will be increased, above all to fight contraband, drug traffic, and illegal travel."

BRIEFS

GUATEMALAN ENVOY PRESENTS CREDENTIALS -- President Salvador Jorge Blanco has accepted the credentials of the new Guatemalan ambassador, Mrs Maria Mercedes Marroquin Milla. [Excerpt] [Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 6 Mar 84 pp 1, 8 FL]

ANGUILLAPOLLS CLOSE IN COUNTRY'S GENERAL ELECTIONS

FL100031 Bridgetown CANA in English 2310 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] The Valley, Anguilla, March 9 (CANA) -- The polls have closed in Anguilla's third general election in four years. Counting of the votes in the seven constituencies is expected to begin at 1930 hrs (local time) in the capital, The Valley.

Chief Minister Ronald Webster's Anguilla People's Party (APP) is seeking a fresh mandate in an election called two years ahead of schedule.

There are 14 candidates -- seven of the APP, six of the opposition Anguilla National Alliance (ANA), headed by Emile Gumbs, and one independent. Webster said he called the snap poll because the opposition had criticised his policies. But Gumbs accused him of gross electoral responsibility, saying that the poll presented an image of instability to the world.

The APP won (five of) the seven seats in the last election in 1981 with the ANA gaining the other two.

BARBADOSFOREIGN MINISTER TULL ON FUTURE FOREIGN POLICY

FL101930 Bridgetown CANA in English 1854 GMT 10 Mar 84

[By Bertram Niles]

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, March 10 (CANA) -- Barbados Foreign Minister Louis Tull said today the island will stress Caribbean and economic relations in its future external relations.

"The main focus of our foreign affairs thrust must be in the (wider) Caribbean," Tull told reporters as he reviewed a week-long conference of advisors and foreign-based heads of diplomatic missions. "I think we have failed in not according the wider Caribbean the type of priority that it merits. Perhaps we have taken the Caribbean for granted," the minister said. Specifically, Tull announced that very shortly a high commission will be set up in Grenada, honorary counsuls would be appointed in all of the Caribbean Community (Caricom) states, and moves would be pursued to discuss joint mixed economic commissions with "certain" Caricom states. He said Barbados would seek to reactivate bilateral exchanges with Trinidad and Tobago in the context of outstanding matters under a memorandum of understanding signed in 1978.

Outside of the Caribbean, Tull said, Barbados will give greater emphasis to its traditional trading partners and, in international fora, to issues of economic and more direct benefit to Barbados, like energy, tourism, law of the sea matters, and the environment. Tull said Barbados' foreign policy had been characterised by "reliability and steadiness," but as a small nation, he felt that it needed to allocate its limited resources to issues of direct benefit to the island.

He said Barbados was very much concerned about the deterioration in the relationships among Caricom states as a result of last October's U.S.-led invasion of Grenada, and intra-regional trading difficulties. "We will seek to heal the breaches," the foreign minister said. He reiterated Barbados' commitment to Caricom in spite of the island having received "its fair share of the beating." This was a reference to the 65 million U.S. dollars owed to the island by the Caricom multi-lateral clearing facility, a regional payments arrangement which collapsed last year.

Tull said the initiatives arising out of the 1978 agreement with Port-of-Spain -- including a joint air cargo company and a soon-to-be completed cement plant -- have proved to very beneficial to the two states. "There are still some outstanding areas... that have not continued and come to fruition, and I think it is about time that we get into bilateral discussions between the two countries...to sit down and get things going again in the areas which the memorandum has identified, and indeed to look for new areas."

The minister said future discussions would be enhanced by an exchange of high commissioners, and he hoped this would take place before long. A diplomatic row related to the invasion of Grenada led to Barbados demanding the recall of the Port-of-Spain envoy in Barbados. Trinidad and Tobago reacted by asking Barbados not to send its high commissioner-designate.

On relations with Guyana, which vigorously condemned the invasion and is often accused of human rights violations, Tull cautioned against isolating the Forbes Burnham administration. "I [word indistinct] the Guyana Government is more aware than it has been for some time of the strong feelings of the Caribbean Community in relation to free and fair elections, the observance of human rights." He added: "There is a new urgency...about the establishment of standards and values that must govern the conduct of states in the region."

On Cuba, Tull said relations with the communist Caribbean state had always been "proper," and he supported continuing contacts with the Fidel Castro regime. To ignore Havana, he said, would be "at our peril."

GRENADA

GOVERNMENT CRITICIZED FOR COMMEMORATION DECISION

FL090045 Bridgetown CANA in English 2234 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] St George's, Grenada, March 8 (CANA) -- Former Grenada Agriculture Minister George Louison today said the interim government seemed under pressure to stop members and supporters of the previous government from holding a big show next Tuesday to mark the fifth anniversary of a coup that brought the leftist New Jewel Movement (NJM) to power. Louison's remark followed a government denial that it had given permission for the celebrations, being organised by a foundation set up in memory of leftist Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, slain in an Army take-over last October.

Bishop was overthrown during feuding in his party, but shortly afterwards the Army junta was unseated in a U.S.-led, Caribbean-supported invasion of the small island, now run by a caretaker government.

Louison said: "It seems to me as though maybe other powers have voiced concern about the question of a March 13 commemoration show, and we think it is quite likely that the interim council should avoid any chance of embarrassing itself by trying to now back-back on a position that they have already taken."

"We see no reason why we should not continue with the cultural show because the basic facts are clear. We are continuing to work on the reply that we had from the Ministry of Culture that they have no difficulties, immigration and security wise, with the Caribbean artists coming into Grenada (for the celebrations)," he added.

UNIONS TRYING TO REVIVE UMBRELLA GROUP

FL091740 Bridgetown CANA in English 1610 GMT 9 Mar 84

[By George Worme]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, March 9 (CANA) -- Attempts are being made in Grenada to revive the Trade Union Council (TUC), the umbrella body for trade unions in the country, which became dormant following last October's political upheaval on the island.

According to the secretary of the Grenada Seamen and Waterfront Workers Union (SMWWU), Eric Pierre, the TUC is not functioning because most of its leaders were either killed in the October 19 Army coup or taken into detention during the subsequent U.S.-led invasion.

The TUC's then Acting President Vincent Noel was among more than 100 people killed in the Army massacre at Fort Rupert, (now Fort George), and its Secretary-General John 'Chaulkie' Ventour was last month charged along with 10 of the country's former political and military leaders with conspiracy to commit murder.

Vice-President Jim Wardally is out of the country in East Germany and Jenny Donald, the assistant secretary, resigned from the TUC after the military intervention on the grounds of ill health. Pierre said at present there are no officers serving the governing body of the TUC, which groups eight of the country's trade unions, and last month the organisation's affiliates met and agreed on a plan of action to revive the movement.

This meeting, he stated, was attended by representatives from unions including SWWU, the Grenada Union of Teachers, the Taxi-Owners and Drivers Association, the Bank and General Workers Union, the Commercial and Industrial Workers Union, the Public Workers Union, the Agricultural and General Workers Union, and the Technical and Allied Workers Union. The veteran trade union leader told CANA that the various representatives appointed the secretary of the Grenada Union of Teachers Denis Thomas to serve as the interim secretary of the TUC. His priority, according to Pierre, would be to put together plans for the holding of a convention at the end of this month at which those unions affiliated to the TUC would elect new officers to serve on the body. The trade unionist said he was working closely with the American Institute for Free Labour Department in helping to re-activate those unions which lost their leadership in the October events.

JAMAICASEAGA DISCUSSES ECONOMY, NEW CREDIT MEASURES

FL082010 Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 2 Mar 84 pp 1, 3

[Text] Prime Minister Edward Seaga has called for understanding of the new credit measures introduced by the government, and has announced that the credit rediscount window at the Bank of Jamaica will be opened within two weeks to ease the pressures in certain areas, including construction.

Speaking at Wednesday's opening of the new Life of Jamaica head office in New Kingston, the Prime Minister said that the performance of the economy since 1980 had been positive in every direction save one, which was the calling of foreign exchange. Mr Seaga said that studies had shown that had the mining sector continued to perform at the 1980 levels over the past three years, the government would have achieved all the targets it had set for growth. He said that while other areas of the economy had responded to the government's programme, the bauxite/alumina industry fed by world recession had continued to show decline resulting in a reduction of the net international reserves.

According to the prime minister the government had to look at the other productive sectors of the economy to determine how to boost them, so that there would not have to be a reliance on bauxite/alumina as the single dominant area for earning foreign exchange. He said that as a result the tourism sector was made buoyant, the manufacturing sector had been relieved of some of the constraints which had hindered it over the years, including bureaucracy, and agriculture had been afforded a "bright ray of hope" through Agro 21. But, he said, as the government pursued these steps, mining still remained the dominant factor in the economy.

He said that the new credit measures were needed to deal with the present situation whereby the liquidity in the banking system was being used to buy dollars on the street market which were not going into the banking system. Mr Seaga said that in 1983/84, it was found that some U.S. \$170 million did not enter the official system. He said that further analysis had shown that there was a \$42 million leakage in the hotel sector.

The new measures, Mr Seaga said, were to dry up the liquidity in the banking system, so that the dollars would not be available to buy foreign dollars, and persons holding foreign currency would be encouraged to take them to the banks for exchange so that they could enter the system. "These measures therefore are intended to be tough, but they are intended to be particularly tough in the consumer sector so that all the instruments of credit that are available this year will go into the productive sector," Mr Seaga said. He said that it was expected that some \$140 million will be available for credit in the construction sector, which represented a reduction of \$47 million over what was available last year.

"I cannot say to you there won't be a pinch felt in the expectations for the development of buildings and housing in the construction sector. But in order to ease some of what is taking place in terms of the credit measures and the restrictions on available credit, it is intended to open a rediscount window at the Bank of Jamaica, where credit can be channelled specifically by the government for particular projects; so that some of the pinch will be eased in those areas to enable credit to be extended along the lines of government policy, and it is in that area that we hope to relieve some of the pressures in the construction industry, specifically.

"I can't tell you at this stage the details of the type of criteria which will be used to determine what kind of projects will be eligible, but all of this will be available within two weeks when the rediscount window is opened for the construction sector and other areas of production."

He said that the government this year had to concentrate its efforts at generating foreign exchange to make sure that a sizeable improvement would be made in terms of the country's economic recovery. "This is not to say that it is the only problem, but it is the only problem on which we have not made any headway: There are other problems on which we have made some headway, some greatly and some to only a moderate extent. The foreign exchange problem is the single most important problem that we have to deal with this year, and therefore one has got to understand the credit measures that have been instituted against that background, as an attempt to deal with this pressing problem in order to bring the dollars into the banking system, because it is only in the banking system that we have the command of these dollars to use them in the direction of national policy."

"I hope that I can count on the co-operation of everyone because we are going to need everyone's co-operation to achieve that result and we dare not fail, if we fail the country fails."

GOVERNMENT ASKED TO TEMPER REMARKS ON REYNOLDS

FLO92035 Bridgetown CANA in English 1840 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, March 9 (CANA) -- THE GLEANER newspaper here today urged the Jamaica Government to temper its statements about the future of assets in Jamaica of Reynolds Metals for risk of threatening future foreign investment here.

Reynolds last week announced that it was ending bauxite mining operations in Jamaica, effectively pulling out of a company in which the Jamaica Government had 51 per cent interest. It told the government of its plans only a few days before the public announcement, and since then Mining Energy Minister Hugh Hart said he had given instructions that no Reynolds equipment should leave Jamaica until after discussions on partnership assets.

Said THE GLEANER in an editorial: "...We would urge the government to temper its statement as to the future of Reynolds' assets in the country, despite the economic shocks of the company's decision. For no government interested in attracting foreign investment could risk the ruin of investment with threats to "lock up foreign assets." Noting also government's announcement that it was looking at a number of proposals to keep operations at the Reynolds mines going, THE GLEANER told the government to be extremely careful not to make panic decisions "or allow the rhetoric of the left to propel it into situations which the country will eventually regret."

The Marxist Workers Party of Jamaica has called for nationalization of the company, paying Reynolds for its assets either out of future profits or bauxite.

The major opposition, the democratic socialist People's National Party (PNP) urged that Seaga seek new partnerships without being fettered by ideological considerations over the total ownership of the plant.

THE GLEANER said too that despite statements to the contrary, the bauxite production levy imposed here in 1974 had a role in the Reynolds pull-out.

It noted that Reynolds had said it was getting bauxite elsewhere cheaper than Jamaica, and that its production here in the foreseeable future would be too low to take advantage of quantity discounts in the levy or absorb fixed cost sufficiently to make operations economic. Said the paper: "Herein is an indication that despite the claim to the contrary, the existence of the levy, although steadily negotiated downwards from the initial scale, may have been a major factor influencing the company's decision."

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

CSO REPORTS 1983 IMPORT-EXPORT FIGURES

FL091500 Bridgetown CANA in English 2327 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, March 8 (CANA) -- Trinidad and Tobago chalked up an adverse visible trade balance of 707 million dollars (1 TT dollar; 41 cents U.S.) in the first 11 months of 1983, the government's Central Statistical Office (CSO) reported.

Imports for the period totalled 5,734 TT million dollars while exports were 5,027 million dollars, of which 4,770 million dollars represented domestic exports.

Corresponding data for 1982 showed total imports at 7,886 million dollars and exports at 6,768 million dollars, a deficit of 1.1 billion dollars.

The CSO said that the petroleum sector accounted for three per cent of total imports and 83 per cent of exports for the period January to November 1983.

Excluding petroleum, imports amounted to 5,537 million dollars and exports 858 million dollars.

According to the CSO bulletin, the value of Trinidad and Tobago's imports from Caribbean Common Market (Caricom) countries during January to November last year was 342 million dollars or six per cent of total imports.

Exports to Caricom amounted to 224 million dollars, or five per cent of all domestic exports.

The main sources of Trinidad and Tobago's Caricom imports during the 11-month period in 1983 were: Jamaica 32 per cent, Barbados 27 per cent, Guyana 15 per cent, and St Vincent 10 per cent.

Of total domestic exports to the Caricom bloc, Guyana absorbed 28 per cent, Barbados 27 per cent, Jamaica 17 per cent, Antigua 8 per cent, and St Lucia 6 per cent.

The CSO bulletin said Trinidad and Tobago's trade under the Caricom agreement for January to November 1983, when compared with the same period in 1982, showed that imports increased by 11 million dollars.

Exports to Caricom for the period fell by 123 million dollars, the CSO added.

Excluding the petroleum sector, Trinidad and Tobago's Caricom agreement imports were valued 341 million dollars while domestic exports were 97 million dollars for the 11-month period in 1983.

CONFLICTING REPORTS ON EFFECTS OF STRIKE NOTED

FL100050 Bridgetown CANA in English 2334 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, March 9 (CANA) -- A trade union and Guyana's state-run sugar company today gave conflicting reports on the effects of a week-long strike by over 1,000 sugar boilers, clerical, and supervisory staff. General Secretary of the National Association of Agricultural Commercial and Industrial Employees (NAACIE) Nankishore Gopaul said all 10 sugar estates were hit by the strike. The response of NAACIE members to the strike call has been almost 100 per cent, he said. The industrial action is to protest the delay by the Guyana Sugar Corporation (Guysuco) to pay increases retroactive to 1979, awarded by the high court.

A Guysuco spokesman said the company produced over 6,000 tons of sugar this week, and was able to pay workers despite the absence of clerks from their desks. "We are continuing production and we will continue to do so despite the strike," the spokesman said. There are 2,700 workers in the sugar industry. Guysuco has also denied a charge by the union that it was using apprentices, unskilled workers, and pensioners to break the strike. Sugar is one of Guyana's main foreign exchange earners.

MEXICAN ASSISTANCE SOUGHT IN ENERGY FIELD

FL101908 Bridgetown CANA in English 1826 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, March 10 (CANA) -- Guyana is seeking help from Mexico in the fields of oil exploration, mining, and the development of alternative energy sources, Chairman of the National Energy Authority (GNEA) Abel Felix said here. Felix spoke before he and senior official of the Geology and Mines Commission Grantley Waldron left Guyana yesterday for Mexico City for talks with officials on the terms of the assistance. Preliminary consultations on the possibility of Mexican assistance for Guyana were held about two weeks ago between officials of the two governments.

In the area of oil exploration, Guyana is seeking assistance in the fields of training, supply of equipment, and possible investment. In the field of mining, Guyana hopes to encourage Mexican investment and technical assistance for exploiting this country's bauxite and kaolin reserves, Felix said. Felix said Guyana hopes Mexico will share some of its experience and expertise in alternative energy resource development, while some attention will be given to the possibility of Mexican involvement in development the country's renewable energy sources, for example, hydro power.

SOUTH KOREAN TRAWLER CAPTAINS RELEASED ON BAIL

FL090025 Bridgetown CANA in English 2329 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, March 8 (CANA) -- Three South Korean trawler captains charged with unlawfully operating in Guyana's fisheries zone last Saturday and breaching the country's maritime boundaries act, today released on 50,000 dollars (1 Guy dollar; 24 U.S.) [as received] bail each when they appeared before principal Magistrate Desmond Burchsmith.

Chyung Jong-ki, of the trawler "Sechong 22," Gang Deong-kil, of the "Sechong 10," and Ba Yeng-hyen of the "Makandra Number 2" pleaded not guilty to the charges and will return to court on March 23.

Executive Managing Director Kwon Bark of Park Owners International Oceanic Enterprises, and Manager Paul Stupple arrived in Guyana this morning from Paramaribo and were in court today. "The three trawlers were in Suriname waters at the time when the Guyana Defence Force patrol ordered them to stand by and they operate through satellite system which gives an accurate location of each vessel," Bark said afterwards. [sentence as received] "In fact the three vessels were anchored at the time," he claimed.

The vessels are owned by the American International Oceanic Enterprises and Sechong Boats, Bark said. The GDF said the three boats were caught fishing in Guyana's waters and one of them, the "Makandra Number Two," attempted to ram the patrol boat. The GDF patrol responded with machine gun fire killing one South Korean sailor, Hong Moon-kim. His body is to be cremated here tomorrow.

Further on Captured Fishermen

SK090904 Seoul YONHAP in English 0752 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Seoul, March 9 (YONHAP) -- Eight of the 11 South Korean fishermen taken captive by a Guyanese patrol boat while operating in waters off Suriname were released by the South American nation's authorities Thursday afternoon (local time), five days after their capture. The Heungyoung Fisheries Co., owner of two of the three 99-ton shrimp trawlers seized by a Guyanese patrol boat along with the fishermen, said the eight flew out of Georgetown at 7 a.m. Friday and arrived in Miami, Florida, the United States, after a two-hour-and-15-minute flight. They are scheduled to arrive at Seoul's Kimpo International Airport early Monday morning via New York.

Guyanese authorities are still holding the three skippers of the trawlers, a Heungyoung spokesman said. The three skippers, who are now undergoing questioning by the Guyanese authorities, are expected to be freed on bail after standing trials scheduled for March 11 and March 23, the spokesman said. The eight fishermen released Thursday paid no bail. Kim Hong-Moon, a 46-year-old deckman on the U.S.-registered "Makandra No 2" who was killed by machine gun fire from the Guyanese patrol boat, will be cremated in Guyana Friday. His remains will be sent to Korea a week after lying in state at the company's branch office in Paramaribo, Suriname, the spokesman added.

The company has not yet reached an agreement with the Guyanese authorities on the return of the three captured fishing vessels, it was learned.

The spokesman said the president of his company, Pak Po-Hui, who is concurrently president of the WASHINGTON TIMES published in Washington, D.C., met with the Guyanese ambassador to Washington a number of times following the incident to request the early release of the fishermen. The company's Suriname office representative met with commander of the South American country's Armed Forces and his information aide Wednesday to work for their release, according to the spokesman. A Guyanese lawyer hired by the company in Suriname played a mediator's role.

The two Korean trawlers -- "Sejong Nos 10 and 22 -- and the "Makandra No 2" were fired on and captured by a Guyanese patrol boat March 3. Two of the 12 Korean fishermen were on board the "Sejong No 10," five others on the "Sejong No 22," and another five on the U.S.-registered boat.